Stourbridge
CHRONICLE
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Accountant will have to pay Christian groups £34k

FRAUDSTER CASH TRACKED DOWN

Report by Andrew Turton

AN ACCOUNTANT who stole more than £500,000 from two charities, including a Stourbridge Christian centre, has been ordered to pay back £34,000 of his ill-gotten gains.

Church members had feared they would not get a penny back from shamed accountant Stephen Methuen, who was originally from Wordsley.

But this week they expressed their gratitude to investigators for recouping some of the cash.

When the courts jailed Methuen back in 2012, investigators believed he was penniless and ordered him to pay back just £1. But after more than two years of investigations, finance experts discovered £34,000 which they tracked back to a pension pot.

Methuen, aged 60, had worked as a volunteer treasurer and accountant for Amblecote Christian Centre and over a six-year period stole the huge sum of cash. During the previous court case, the judge heard Methuen had used the money to refurbish his home, pay off credit card debts and to help save his failing business.

Swindled

He swindled £400,000 out of the Christian centre, in Brettell Lane, and more than £100,000 from the Christian International Relief Mission, both between 2003 and 2009.

Methuen, once of Smalman Close, now of Rubery in Birmingham, had admitted a total of 16 counts of fraud and was jailed for five years. He has since been released from prison on licence.

The courts have now ordered Methuen to pay back the cash following a hearing at Wolverhampton Crown Court on April 8.

The West Midlands Asset Confiscation Enforcement Team had pursued the cash following his sentence two and a half years ago.

Vera Williams, who led the investigation, said: "This just shows how committed we are to ensuring people return assets they have gained as a result of crime.

"Although Methuen was jailed back in October 2012 we have remained focussed on this case and this is a great result that will see tens of thousands of pounds returned to the church."

Adrian Lowe, from Amblecote Christian Centre, said: "This is another example of the great support that police have given us as a church family. Both the team that led the original investigation and now the West Midlands Asset Confiscation Enforcement Team have been exemplary in the way they have handled this case."

SPEED WATCH AIMS TO MAKE MOTORISTS THINK

John Macleod, Councillor Paul Brothwood, James Callaghan, Mike Hands, Councillor Derrick Hemingsley and PCSO James Keeley

MOTORISTS have been warned about their speed during the latest crackdown by campaigners in Wordsley.

Residents came out to support the speed watch scheme which has been running over recent months in the area.

It was started after people living in Wordsley raised concerns over cars breaking speed limits on mainly residential roads.

Resident Mike Hands welcomed the campaign saying speeding motorists are a problem.

"You can get some drivers doing what looks like 60 to 70 mph," he said. "It is especially a problem because of the parked cars and there are schools too.

In Balmoral Road and then Lawnswood Road, two drivers were caught at 38mph exceeding the 30mph limits during the most recent checks.

Difference

Labour Councillor Derrick Hemingsley said: "This group is making a difference for the safety of children in Wordsley."

Councillor Paul Brothwood, who attended with John MacLeod, who is UKIP's council candidate for Wordsley, said:"It was great to see a cross party group and members of the local community working with PCSOs to catch speeders in Wordsley.

"We focused on Balmoral Road and Lawnswood Road. I hope the letters the speeders receive will act as a wake up call."

The team, which also includes PSCO Jim Keeley, monitor speeds using a speed gun to track motorists.

Those flouting the speed limit are sent letters warning them about their driving.

CARJACKING

Woman hit by her own car during attack

A WOMAN was run over by her own car during a terrifying carjacking in Kingswinford. The 26-year-old was dragged from the driver's seat of her Ford Mondeo in Ham Lane in the early hours of Monday.

Two men in a dark hatchback had blocked her way before running towards her vehicle. One man got into the backseat as the other pulled the victim from her car. The attackers reversed into the woman, driving over her leg as they made a getaway. Two men were later arrested and released on bail.

FINANCE

Building society branch revamp

A BUILDING society branch in Brierley Hill is closing for a fortnight for refurbishment.

The Dudley Building Society branch in High Street will be shut from 5pm tomorrow (Friday) until to 9.30am on Monday, May 18.

The society is in the midst of a programme of upgrading its branch network.

Brierley Hill customers will be able to use branches in Dudley, Stourbridge, Kingswinford and Gornal Wood.

COLLISION

Girl, aged 3, thrown from vehicle in crash

A THREE-YEAR-OLD girl was thrown from a car and left with serious head injuries following a crash in Tipton.

Her mother was also badly hurt in the smash and had to be cut out of her Ford Focus after it was involved in a collision with a Volkswagen Golf in Park Lane West at 1.15pm on Monday.

The force of the collision was such that the girl was thrown from the car and onto the road.

The youngster was being cared for at Birmingham Children's Hospital. Her injuries are not thought to be life-threatening.

INSIDE
BRIAN SAYS AIM FOR THE STARS

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CONTACT US

EDITORIAL:
Tel: 01384 335203
E-mail: dudley.chrons@expressandstar.co.uk

SPORTS:
Tel: 01902 319453
E-mail: chron.sport@expressandstar.co.uk

PHOTOGRAPHIC:
Tel: John Sambrooks 01902 319431

ADVERTISING: Sue Jones
Tel: 01384 399901
E-mail: sue.jones@expressandstar.co.uk

PROPERTY: Marguerita Finnegan
Tel: 01902 319627
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MOTORING: Liz Barratt
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CLASSIFIED:
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Year round angling at popular pool

ANGLERS will be able to fish in a pool at a popular park all year around after a three-month closed season was removed for the second summer in a row.

It had been introduced after complaints about people illegally fishing at Himley Park, on the border of Dudley and South Staffordshire.

Extra security had to be drafted in to prevent the theft of fish during the closed season, which ran from mid-March to mid-June.

But, following a successful trial in 2013, Dudley Council announced it would be keeping the Great Pool open to anglers all year round.

Bosses have announced that the closed season has again been removed this year.

The closed season had aimed to allow fish stocks to be replenished through re-stocking and breeding. But bosses said the believed removing the three month ban they would stop illegal fishing by increasing the amount of the time the pool is open to anglers.

Closed seasons will remain in place at the pools at The Leasowes in Halesowen and at Fens Pool in Brierley Hill.

John Millar, the council's acting environment chief, said: "Decisions on putting in place closed seasons are taken individually for each site so that local environmental considerations can be accounted for.

"This year there is no closed season at Himley while a closed season was put in place during breeding season at Leasowes and Fens Pool from March 15 until June 15 to help maintain a healthy population."

When the trial was carried out in 2013, bosses said they would assess the impact of the extended fishing time before make a decision on whether to make the move permanent.

It was decided there had been no negative impact on the fish stocks at the site.

Before lifting the fishing ban last year, the council had spent £1,404 protecting the pool with a security company was temporarily contracted to monitor the site over fears of illegal fishing at night during closed season.

Housing boom aims to boost town centre

A HOUSING boom is on the way for Dudley town centre with 650 new homes planned to help boost its regeneration.

Council bosses want to encourage more people to live in the town centre.

They say shops and businesses in the town will benefit from increased trade.

It's the latest vision to help breathe new life into the centre and comes after a £50 million masterplan to build restaurants, shops and houses alongside a supermarket on the site of Cavendish House was unveiled earlier this month.

Among the housing projects is the conversion of former council offices dotted around the town's civic quarter into 90 homes. The historic former post office on the corner of Wolverhampton Street and Priory Street has been earmarked for 21 apartments. Around 140 homes are to be built on the site of the old gas works in Constitution Hill and another 43 on Dudley College's old Mons Hill campus.

Further schemes are in the pipeline to provide more homes in and around the town centre to help meet the demand.

Affordable

Housing chiefs say they want to ensure there are 'affordable' options for families as well as increasing footfall in the town. They say shops and restaurants will be benefit from more people being on the doorstep.

John Millar, acting strategic director for economy, environment and housing, said: "Our exciting regeneration work across the town centre will not only bring exciting shopping and business opportunities, but a key part of this is making sure we have affordable homes for people.

"We are creating opportunities for people to live close by to help naturally increase footfall in the town centre and take advantage of all the town has to offer.

"As part of this we are creating 650 homes in and around the town centre at sites including North Priory, Constitution Hill, Mons Hill and also the refurbishment of former office buildings into residential properties in the civic quarter."

Work has been taking place over the past five years. It has been given a boost by completion of Dudley College's £30m learning quarter while work is nearing completion on a £6m overhaul of the market place.

Explore the grounds of Himley Hall

Dawn Smith and Jackie Winn are getting ready for the guided walks around Himley Hall and Park this month

WALKERS can discover the secrets of Himley Hall and Park during a series of free tours this spring.

The historic hall is hosting a number of events including walks and a tour for wheelchair users from now until May 27.

Next up is an easy access trail ton May 16 giving wheelchair users the opportunity to get a guided tour of the grounds and learn about Himley. The tour starts at 2pm.

People can take in the architectural features of the hall and wildlife on a guided walk in the grounds on May 24, from 10am.

On the same day, there will be a band concert in the park from 2.30 to 5pm when people can relax in the grounds and enjoy a picnic. The tea rooms will also be open.

Scavenger

Children can take part in a scavenger hunt on May 27, from 11am to 3pm, which includes worksheets and searching for natural items in the park.

Places need to be booked for all of the tours by calling the hall, run by Dudley Council, on (01384) 817817.

The 180 acres of grounds were designed by Capability Brown and include a great lake fed by a series of waterfalls. When owned by the Ward family, the hall received royal visitors. In 1934 the Duke and Duchess of Kent honeymooned at Himley and The Duke of Windsor spent his last weekend there as Edward VIII before his abdication

Campaign to save landmark venue is dealt a major blow

AN £8 million deal to save Dudley Hippodrome has collapsed after talks over a rescue bid broke down, leaving the landmark theatre facing a bleak future.

Campaigners said they were 'appalled' after the deal by The Rok Group to reopen the venue fell through. It marks a major blow to the three year campaign by the Friends of Dudley Hippodrome to save the venue, after their own proposals were knocked back.

The Rok Group, led by Jonathan Kendrick whose family owned the theatre in the 1960s, said it had now withdrawn its bid to acquire, re-open and refurbish the Hippodrome. Bosses claimed the deal broke down after they failed to reach an agreement over shared use of the car park that also serves Dudley Zoo and over the cost of removing asbestos.

The Rok Group said they were 'frustrated' that no senior councillors had face-to-face talks with them.

But Dudley Council said officials were invovled in talks and reported back to senior councillors. Officials also said the company's plans would have left the authority with a risk of stumping up £1m to safeguard the scheme. The row has led to Dudley's UKIP group calling for an extraordinary meeting of the council.

Friends chairman Gordon Downing said: "I'm appalled that this has happened and we feel the council have delayed and delayed on this issue." Dudley Council's acting strategic director John Millar, said: "The council has continued with its commitment to look at any viable proposal with an open mind."

Manhole smoke revealed blaze

SMOKE billowed from a manhole cover in a road near Stourbridge after an underground fire broke out.

Firefighters were called to Barbrook Drive, in Amblecote, last week, to tackle the blaze.

Crews from Stourbridge used a carbon dioxide extinguisher to put out the flames coming from an underground junction box.

Pavement

Electricity supplies had to be isolated in the area while the crew waited for engineers to arrive at the scene by the mid-morning.

The pavement had been cordoned off during the fire.

National Grid worked to make repairs.

Ford car owners will meet at pub

A CHARITY car meet for owners of classic Ford cars is being held at a Black Country pub.

The event in aid of Macmillan Cancer Support is planned at The Brewer's Wharf in Level Street, Brierley Hill, on Sunday, June 7, from 10am to 4pm.

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Action over Ryemarket car park's yob menace

COUNCIL bosses have pledged to help police take action to stop yobs causing a nuisance in a Stourbridge shopping centre car park.

Police have applied to use a Public Space Protection Plan (PSPO) to deal with anti-social behaviour plaguing the Ryemarket. It follows complaints from shoppers and shop staff about groups hanging around the car park at night.

There have been reports of skateboarders and BMX riders getting in the way of motorists, sometimes skating dangerously on ramps. Walls and stairwells have been repeatedly daubed with graffiti.

The PSPO is a new power under the Anti-Social Behaviour, Crime and Policing Act 2014 which enables councils to deal with problems in public spaces that have a detrimental effect on the quality of life in the local community.

John Millar, Dudley's acting strategic director for economy, environment and housing, said: "We have been working with the police over a number of incidents of anti-social behaviour which has included graffiti and damage. We welcome any work the police are doing to tackle these issues and will continue to work with them.

"We would encourage people to report incidents of anti-social behaviour to the police as soon as possible."

Margaret Scott, chairwoman of the Stourbridge Township Council, said the problem of vandalism and anti-social behaviour in the Ryemarket has been an issue for many years now.

Mini magic going on show at hall

A CLUB for Mini enthusiasts will be marking the start of the summer show season with a special event at Himley Hall and Park next weekend.

The British Mini Club (BMC) will be holding the show at the Dudley Council-run mansion and its grounds on Sunday, May 10, between 10am and 4pm.

There will be a competition with 12 different classes to choose from, catering for every model of Sir Alec Issigonis's iconic car, so closely associated with the 1960s.

Running alongside, there will be the Mini Show 'n' Shine display, with sections for both the classic Mini and modern Mini. For more information call (01384) 897779 or email david.hollis@britishminiclub.co.uk.

Author is to give a talk at library

AUTHOR Adele Geras is visiting Dudley Library to give a talk on her new book Out of the Drak, set just after the First World War. Tickets for the talk on Saturday at 2pm can be reserved on (01384) 815560.

ISIS bomb maker's terror threats

Hamayun Tariq, aged 37, from Dudley

A CAR mechanic from Dudley who joined the Islamic State has posted taunts on social media revealing his bomb-making factory in Syria.

Hamayun Tariq, aged 37, was born and bred in Dudley but the father-of-two now claims to be an explosives expert and sniper for ISIS after fleeing the UK for Pakistan following his release from prison.

He has now shared chilling pictures on Twitter of a room kitted out with components, instruction manuals and bomb-making equipment.

Along with pictures of his 'laboratory' in Syria, the jihadi has said: "IEDs is my favourite weapon after Sniping, u hit the enemy & disappear in thin air just like a Ghost. Its a Must'."

Tariq, who is divorced, claims he is using the room to make IEDs – improvised explosive devices.

It has been reported Tariq joined the Taliban after moving to the Waziristan region of north west Pakistan in 2012. According to reports Tariq had served a three-and-a-half year sentence after being deported to Britain. He was arrested for fraud in Wolverhampton in 2005 but fled to Pakistan to avoid the case going to trial.

Meanwhile, a teenager from Lye has been arrested on suspicion of terrorism offences related to Syria.

The 18-year-old was detained by officers from the West Midlands Counter Terrorism Unit at an address in the town and taken to a Birmingham police station for questioning.

Computer equipment was seized from his home. The teenager, arrested on suspicion of preparing for terrorist acts, has been bailed until July.

Pallbearer is jailed for knife attack on mourner

A PALLBEARER who knifed the son of the woman whose coffin he had just carried has been jailed for four-and-a-half years.

Simon Hughes stabbed Adam Hipkiss, the brother of his estranged partner, in the chest after downing around 20 pints at the wake.

The 36-year-old security guard 'had words' with his former girlfriend before leaving the wake at the Blue Brick Inn on Planet Road, Brierley Hill. He then went to her family home and damaged windows before collecting four kitchen knives and heading back to the pub.

Hughes was in the street with a knife in each hand when he came face to face with Mr Hipkiss and another mourner, James Trevelan, who had both just left the wake. He told them to 'prepare to die'.

Wolverhampton Crown Court heard how the pair persuaded him to drop the knives before Mr Hipkiss tried to detain him – unaware that he had two other knives in his pockets.

Mr Howard Searle, prosecuting, said: "There was a fight during which Mr Hipkiss was stabbed in the chest leaving a V-shaped wound. Thankfully the knife did not penetrate the chest cavity and it was not a very serious wound."

Alcohol

Mr Trevelan also received a minor cut to the hand whilst trying to intervene and was soon joined by other mourners who held Hughes down until police arrived.

Mr John Evans, defending, said the stress of the funeral combined with anti-depressant tablets and a large amount of alcohol had combined to drastically alter the character of Hughes.

He said: "He had not demonstrated violence in the past but became a changed man. What he did was wholly wrong and he acknowledges that."

Hughes from Orchard Street, Brierley Hill, pleaded guilty to wounding with intent, assault, possession of a bladed article and criminal damage at the wake on January 26.

Judge Amjad Nawaz told him: "You had had far too much to drink. There was a confrontation at night in public during which you stabbed the brother of your former partner, and son of the deceased, in the chest. You must be sentenced for the intention you had when you wielded the knife."

Village is going back to the 60s

Back to the 60s with Hairspray stars Laurence Edmonds, of Clent, and Rebecca Hadland, of Sedgley

A THEATRE company is preparing to stage its own version of the hit West End and Broadway musical Hairspray.

The show set in 1960s Baltimore, which was made into a hit movie with John Travolta in drag, is being staged by Kinver Light Operatic Society at Edgecliff High School between May 11 and 16.

Performances will start at 7.30pm at the school in Enville Road and there will be a 2.30pm matinee on Saturday, May 16.

Tickets are priced at £11 for adults and £9 concessions with tickets £13 for peak performances on Friday and Saturday.

To book tickets call Jean Mills on (01384) 836963 or 07828650377 or email peter.twankey@blueyonder.co.uk, alternatively visit the website at www.klos.co.uk for further details.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Rethink on Sunday ball games ban

A LONG-STANDING covenant banning ball games on Sundays in Stourbridge's Mary Stevens Park could be lifted.

Dudley Council is considering removing the ban, which also stops ball games being played on Good Friday, following a request from a bowls team.

Philip Tart, the council's strategic director for resources and transformation, said: "Following guidance from the Charity Commission, we are looking at getting specialist legal advice on the possibility of altering the covenant which is in place."

Flog It expert to hold fundraiser

AN antiques expert who has appeared on the BBC's Flog It is hosting a fundraising night at Stourbridge church tonight (Thursday) when people can bring along interesting old items.

Mark Hannam is an auctioneer and valuer at Fieldings Auctioneers, in Stourbridge, and has featured on the television show. He will be at St Thomas's Church Hall to help raise money for its annual flower festival this July. The event is being held at the church, in Market Street, from 7.30pm. Tickets are £6 including light refreshments, available on the door.

Crash three are taken to hospital

TWO men and a woman were taken to hospital following a two-car collision in the Black Country.

Fire crews from Tipton and Dudley were called to Birmingham New Road, at the junction with Tipton Road, Dudley at 8.05am on Saturday. The crash involved a Rover and a Vauxhall Zafira.

The two men and the woman were not thought to be seriously injured but were all taken to Russells Hall Hospital in Dudley for checks.

Ground decision saves club from relegation

TIVIDALE Football Club have been saved from relegation after winning an appeal over their ground.

The club had faced demotion to the fifth tier of non-league football after an initial application to upgrade the ground was rejected.

But the decision was overturned at Wembley Stadium on Friday, meaning the club can remain in the Evo-Stick First Division South.

Officials said they were delighted with the verdict.

Eatery and offices plan

A PUB in Coseley will be converted into a restaurant/cafe under new plans after being sold.

There are proposals to transform groundfloor area of The White House in Daisy Lane into a restaurant and cafe which also has offices on the first floor.

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

"PERHAPS too much Cognac." Manager Michael Grange's priceless explanation of the fire at Oxford's famous Randolph Hotel, thought to have been caused by someone cooking a beef flambe.

THAT P-word keeps popping up. People keep banging on about "progressive" politics. Have you noticed how they never tell us what they are progressing towards?

BALLOT Monkeys (C4) is a new political satire on the General Election which claims it is "so topical it hasn't been written yet." Oh, yeah? Some of the gags in the first episode had whiskers on them. Even so, it was a fair and funny effort. I loved the wonderful Sarah Hadland as the Ukip activist who can't open her mouth without going off-message (Breastfeeding? Yuk)

THIS week's rash of revelations about massive salaries and pay rises for senior NHS executives should surely focus minds on how the health service spends its money. Apparently not. When party leaders talk about the future of the NHS, they always pledge more money, as if the sole aim is to spend as much as possible. Isn't it obvious by now that the many-headed leviathan of NHS management is perfectly capable of absorbing every penny the nation throws at it (currently £115,000 million and rising), while still delivering some of the longest queues and worst cancer-outcome rates in the developed world?

SNP leader Nicola Sturgeon says of her manifesto: "This is about how we deliver better politics, not just for people in Scotland but right across the UK." This is presumably the same UK that Ms Sturgeon and her pals want to destroy.

HOW finance works. My credit-card company, noticing that I never spend up to my credit limit, has just reduced my limit by £2,000. This releases £2,000 which they can then lend to some poor devil already up to his eyeballs in debt. The leaden lifebelt.

A READER writes: "With the election looming, there are far too many political jokes doing the rounds. The snag is, some of them will get elected."

IT is a wonderful spring for cherry blossom. When the cherries appear, the finches we see for only a few fruit-rich days per year will descend and take the lot in an orgy of scoffing. Yesterday I saw a brief flash of colour over our blossom-covered cherry tree. Some would see it as a rare sighting of a gorgeous little bullfinch. I see it as a recce for much gorging to come, the first spotter plane before the blitz.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Winter warm scheme helps 800 families

MORE than 800 families have benefited from a scheme helping them to keep their homes warm during the winter months.

Dudley Council has been offering support to households via its winter warmth scheme.

They have been speaking to residents and staff have worked with health and social care workers to help anyone they feel may be at risk.

Some 837 households across the borough have received practical help and assistance to keep themselves and their homes warm. This has included home visits giving energy advice, support with tariff switching and practical help to keep homes warm.

Emergency heaters, blankets, hot water bottles and bedsocks have been provided, as well as help to access grants, benefits and managing energy debt.

John Millar, acting strategic director for economy, environment and housing, said: "The winter warmth scheme has proved to be a fantastic scheme providing much needed support to the people most in need of additional help to stay warm during the winter months.

"We hope that this scheme has helped us to avoid unnecessary hospitalisations and to reduce the cold related deaths that occur each year as a result of vulnerable people being too cold in their homes. The fact that the scheme has helped over 800 borough households to keep warm is a great achievement."

The winter scheme has closed now but advice is still available from the council on (01384) 817086.

Lack of consultant has hit dental service

By Andrew Turton

DENTAL patients in Dudley borough have had to travel further afield for corrective treatment after health bosses were forced to turn folks away.

Some people have been unable to get dental treatment in Dudley for around 16 months after officials refused to take further patients.

Those patients have instead been referred to other parts of the Black Country, Birmingham or Solihull for orthodontic treatment, such as braces. This was due to a 'significant mismatch between demand and capacity' in the borough.

Only one consultant had been managing the service based at Russells Hall Hospital.

Dentists in Dudley say they are concerned after the consultant retired, leaving the service with only a locum for remaining patients.

Problem

Dudley Local Dental Committee chairman Sue Stevens, of Norton Dental Practice, Stourbridge, said there is a 'major problem'.

"The waiting list is still closed, since January 2014," she added. "Children with severe orthodontic problems, unsuitable for treatment in primary care, are unable to access consultant led services.

"The consultant has now retired, and a locum appointed for six months, who is unlikely to be seeing patients from the waiting list.

"The commissioners at NHS England in Birmingham seem to be content to forget about provision of services in Dudley."

Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust chief executive Paula Clark said: "The orthodontic service remains closed to new referrals. Despite attempts to recruit to the consultant post, we have been unsuccessful. This is in line with a national shortage of orthodontists. We are about to make a further attempt to recruit by advertising the position again."

Variety shows up to help school

Variety children's charity chairman Ralph Holden presents the keys to Old Park headteacher Gill Cartwright OBE

A SPECIAL school in Dudley has welcomed the arrival of a new minibus from the Variety Club.

Old Park School in Quarry Bank, were presented with the bright red bus after applying to the children's charity 18 months ago.

Charity chairman Ralph Holden met with head teacher Gill Cartwright OBE at the school to make the presentation.

Ms Cartwright said: "We're so pleased to receive the minibus from the Variety Club, which was able to fund half the costs. An important part of the pupils' education is a wide range of exciting enrichment activities and the new bus will help the school to do this.

"Trips out of school include weekly horse-riding, visits across a range of activities in the local community and integration links with other schools and colleges. "

The school now has three buses for the use of the 136 students who attend Old Park. The students, aged from four to 19, have learning difficulties and many have autism.

The Variety Club was set up in the UK in 1949 and was one of the first charities in the UK for children and young people. The charity aims to improves the lives of young people.

Ralph Holden, regional chairman of the charity, said: "We are thrilled that the school will be able to take pupils out so they can enjoy activities in the local community."

Take a lead by joining course for dog owners

FOUR-LEGGED friends are invited to take part in a new canine training course at Dudley's Priory Park.

The sessions take place every Saturday from 10am to 11am for dogs aged up to six months and at 11am to 12noon for dogs aged over six months.

Led by the Kennel Club, the activities are open to dogs of all ages and breeds and cover behavioural training, obedience, tricks and exercise and cost £1 per week.

The classes enable dogs to work through four different courses from puppy foundation level up to bronze, silver and gold standard.

It's hoped they will promote the health benefits of owning a dog while enabling dog owners to meet like minded people.

Beautiful

John Millar, acting strategic director for environment, economy and housing, said: "There are many health benefits to owning a dog as they encourage us to walk more and often help us to socialise with others.

"These courses are designed to help improve pet behaviour in the beautiful green spaces of Priory Park."

Adults and children of all abilities are welcome. Participants meet at the Priory Park tennis courts on Priory Road.

Puppies can begin after their course of vaccinations is complete.

To book a session or for more information call (01384) 812474 or email lindarickhuss@aol.com

Offices proposed at former GP's

A DOCTORS' surgery in Stourbridge left empty when staff moved to a new £8.5 million medical centre could be converted into offices.

Plans for the Worcester Street Medical Practice premises have been submitted to Dudley Council.

It is proposed to turn the premises into several self-contained offices and it is hoped that these will attract new businesses into the town.

A decision on the scheme will be made by councillors within the next three months.

The building has been vacant since the surgery re-located to the enhanced former Foster and Rastrick site, off Lowndes Road, last year.

The former practice was put on the market for £399,950 last summer.

Church will be venue for bride fashion show

A WEDDING fair is being held at a Stourbridge town centre church next weekend. The event in St John's United Reformed Church off St John's Road is on Sunday, May 10, 1.30pm to 5pm with bridal fashion show at 3pm. Admission is £2 for adults.

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Sailing club plan race to raise funds for lifeboats

A SAILING club are gearing up for a six hour race in aid of a lifesaving charity next weekend.

Members of Himley Hall Sailing Club are preparing for the race on Saturday, May 9, at Himley Hall that will see them raise money for the Royal National Lifeboat Institution (RNLI).

The club has raised over £96,000 since they first ran the long distance race in 1976 for the RNLI who save lives at sea.

Organiser Alan Dean said "We're hoping that this year's event will be really big. The RNLI is such a worthy cause. If there are other sailing clubs out there who would like to enter, there's still time. Just contact the club — we'd be delighted to have you aboard."

Despite Himley being one of the smallest sailing lakes in the country, the Royal Yachting Association shortlisted the club as one of five contenders for its prestigious Club of the Year Award.

The club itself will field several teams made up of families, safety boat operators, trainers, women, juniors.

Ellowes Hall School will also field a team for this year, after recently introducing sailing as an option in PE.

People can donate money on the day at the thatched clubhouse, or the starter's hut which is on the lakeside.

To book a place call the co-ordinator Tony Sutton on 07774 818 449.

There will also be taster day held on May 19 for people interested in sailing.

Reunion planned for old school pals

CLASSMATES from a Dudley school that closed in 1990 are organising a reunion. The year group that started at Sir Gilbert Claughton Grammar Technical School in 1971 is holding the event on Friday, May 15.

The idea came after former pupil Paul Floyd, of Sedgley, posted a photograph of the school football team, taken in about 1974, of which he was a member, on a social media site. It resulted in him being contacted by many former pupils.

Organisers are inviting pupils who attended the school in Blowers Green Road between 1971 and 1976 to get in touch with Mr Floyd on on 07941 439231 for more details.

The site of the former school is currently up for sale.

Social enterprise group meeting

A SOCIAL enterprise network meets on Tuesday. Dudley-based Synergy will meet at Unit3Sixty, Stourbridge, from 9.30am. For details call Caroline Webb at Dudley Council for Voluntary Service on (01384) 573381.

Councils together could halt bed blocking

PLANS for a combined authority for the Black Country and Birmingham will help to end bed blocking in hospitals, a council leader says.

Darren Cooper, leader of Sandwell Council, is leading the Black Country's negotiations for a West Midlands Combined Authority to work with Birmingham that cross borders.

He said he wanted the new body to have the power to integrate health and social care and end the 'competition' between councils and hospitals. It follows plans for Greater Manchester to have control of the entire £6 billion health budget for its city region.

Councillor Cooper said: "It's fundamentally unacceptable to have cases of bed blocking because there isn't a joined up approach between health and social care. People don't see the difference between what's the council's responsibility and what's the hospital's.

"They shouldn't have to put up with different parts of the system competing with each other. There should be a quick and seamless response to getting people the support they need to leave hospital when they are well enough."

Work

Bed blocking is the term given to delays when patients can leave hospital but another part of the system holds them up.

Councillor Cooper added: "We also want direct influence over JobCentre Plus and any Work Programme schemes. We think we have the right contacts to link people with jobs."

The combined authority would involve Dudley, Wolverhampton, Sandwell, Walsall and Birmingham councils working together. However it has been promised that there would be no merging of the authorities, nor would there be any new council wards created.

The door is also open to Coventry and Solihull if they wish to join. They already work with the Black Country and Birmingham on public transport.

Tory grandee Lord Heseltine has said that the Black Country and Birmingham is next on the list for devolved powers after Manchester but has suggested an elected mayor may be required.

Patients given more of a say in running services

FUNDING of £50,000 has been awarded to set up patient groups to represent the views of residents across Dudley borough.

Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has allocated cash to enable Patient Participation Groups (PPG) which will work to make improvements during the next two years.

Each group is linked to a GP practice in the borough and members work alongside health staff to provide a patient perspective on the healthcare services available in the community.

A budget of up to £1,000 for each PPG has been made available to enable them to set up, encourage the involvement of new patients and work to improve health and well-being of patients. The funding has been made available through the PPG Purse Grant Programme.

A number of groups have already planned health events, such as tea parties and open days, for their particular practice.

One of the first is Three Villages Medical Practice in Stourbridge, which was hosting a tea party this week to keep in touch with patients. The Ridgeway Surgery in Sedgley is planning an event in June.

Projects

PPGs from different practices can work collaboratively to host joint events and activities, when the individual budgets can be pooled for larger projects.

Cicely Thomas, chairman of The Ridgeway Surgery PPG, said: "We are so pleased that funding has been made available. We are really excited at the opportunity to make a difference to our local community and encourage more people to join our PPG and have a voice."

There is no closing date to apply for funding. To ensure the money is ring-fenced, Dudley CVS will be holding the funds and administering the programme over the next two years.

For more information about the PPG Purse Grant Programme, call either Helen Codd on (01384) 321719 or Kate Green at Dudley CVS on (01384) 573381.

The move comes after GPs in Dudley were handed more power to manage the borough's £400 million health budget. They will work with NHS England to decide how the money is spent. Dudley CCG was given permission to take responsibility for co-commissioning the majority of GP services from this month, one of the first given the green light by NHS England.

The vinyl countdown to retro fairs

Henry Ratcliffe, front, with, from left, Maria Kaye, Guy Brace and Annabel Cooper get ready for a vintage fair

A COUPLE with a passion for the past are taking Stourbridge back in time with retro fashion and classic music.

Henry Ratcliffe and Maria Kaye are bringing a record fair to the Talbot Hotel next Saturday, May 9, after it's successful debut earlier this year. When the vinyl is packed away after the sale, Miss Kaye will then turn her attention to a vintage fair which she will be hosting the following week, on May 16 at St Thomas' Church Hall in Market Street.

They are hoping to take advantage of a resurgence in interest in vinyl and fashion from the 70s, 60s and 50s.

Mr Ratcliffe said: "I have grown up with records, my dad had them and I never really stopped buying them. I have always been a bit of a collector.

"I set up the records fair because I thought there was a need for it in Stourbridge. We've had one event at the Talbot and around 200 people came."

The couple, who live in Birmingham, both have experience of working in music stores.

Miss Kaye will be back in Stourbridge for the retro and vintage fair. She has been runnng such events with her friend Ella Gardiner for around a year.

Both events take place between 11am and 4pm.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Woman in CCTV image is cleared

A WOMAN police wanted to speak to over a theft from a woman suffering a seizure in Stourbridge has been identified and ruled out of investigations.

The 48-year-old was shopping in Stourbridge's Ryemarket on April 7 when she collapsed. While passers-by rushed to help, police believe one woman reached into the victim's handbag and stole £60 cash. Police released a CCTV image of a woman they wanted to trace. A spokesman said: "After speaking to her and reviewing the footage, it's been established she was not involved in the theft at all."

Green Devil voted the best ale again

MEMBERS of Dudley and South Staffordshire branch of the Campaign for Real Ale are travelling to Peterborough to present an award.

Green Devil, a six per cent ale brewed by Peterborough-based Oakham Ales, was voted beer of the festival by drinkers at the annual Dudley Winter Ales Fair in Dudley Town Hall in November. It is the second year in a row it has won.

The award will be presented to the Oakham team on June 20.

Dudley's 2015 winter ales fair will run from November 26 to 28.

Dramatic society stage a thriller

A THRILLER by the writer television hits including The Avengers will be brought to the stage in the Black Country.

The curtain will rise on Wordsley Amateur Dramatic Society's production of Edge of Darkness this week. The play was written by screenwriter Brian Clemens, who died in January aged 83. The society is staging its version at Stream Road Methodist Church, Kingswinford, from yesterday (Wednesday) to Saturday.

Mozart Mass to be performed at concert

DUDLEY Choral Society, which celebrates its 70th anniversary this year, will be performing Mozart's Requiem Mass at its spring concert next weekend.

Works by Purcell and Parry will also be included in the concert at St Mark's Church, Pensnett, on Saturday, May 9 from 7.30pm. Tickets cost £8 for adults, £6 concessions and £1 for under-16s. They are available on the door, or from secretary Anne Shirley on (01384) 259250.

New bike track on way

A £23,500 bike track will be built in Kinver to boost activities for young people in the village. The track will be constructed next to the skate park, created five years ago. It will replace the worn out bike track built by Kinver Action Group in 2009 and should be completed this month.

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Cloudy2Clear Windows – Service With A Smile!

It's been a crazy few months for Cloudy2Clear Windows. The company which specialises in repairing windows which are steamed up, broken or damaged by replacing the panes – not the frames has grown rapidly as homeowners take advantage of their services.

Managing Director Brian Stanley feels that it's all about service. 'Our product is simple. If your double glazing is misted up we can replace the glass at a fraction of the cost of a new window, in any type of frame, and with a new 5 year guarantee. But it's not just about saving people money, although that obviously helps. Many tradespeople have struggled since last year and I honestly feel that during the good times a minority perhaps didn't focus on customer care as much as they should have done.

We make sure we turn up when we say we will, do the job the customer requires and leave their house as clean as a whistle. I often get comments back from customers on how they really didn't expect that sort of service which, in a way, is very sad for the service industry as a whole.'

Cloudy2Clear service Wolverhampton and the surrounding area and Brian is finding that his approach is a major factor in his success. 'The truth is that it's not just the personal satisfaction that I get from doing a good job but also it makes good business sense. I get a huge amount of business from friends and family of people I've done work for, which just goes to show how much a little bit of effort is appreciated.'

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IN MY VIEW
with Mark Andrews

Political advice – from a murderer

STILL wondering which way to vote in the election? Seeking wise counsel on where to put your cross come polling day?

Fear not. Moors murderer Ian Brady has entered the debate, and has put his thoughts on paper. Apparently, he believes most professional criminals are Tory voters, he says David Cameron represents "the usual mob-pleasing PR drivel expected from such bovines", and believes David Dimbleby is an "establishment dumpling". Suffice to say, he is not very fond of Ed Miliband either, although it's probably best not to go into his rather offensive thoughts on that matter.

Apparently, Brady hasn't read a newspaper since 1998, and keeps up to date by watching the Middle East television channel Al Jazeera – don't you just reckon they will be thrilled with that endorsement? Still, it's wise to remember all this next time the European Court of Human Rights starts banging on about giving prisoners the vote.

❒❒❒❒❒

A FEW weeks ago, a note from the council contractors landed on the doormat informing us that the road would be resurfaced. Among other things, it boasted how environmentally friendly the new resurfacing process would be. I know we have to take care of the wildlife these days, but was it really necessary to carefully lay the asphalt around a dandelion?

❒❒❒❒❒

THE problem with many of the email scams is that very often it is very hard to tell what is genuine. I received a communication supposedly from B&Q, telling me how it was "the perfect place to choose a new shade of paint, invest in some kitchen cabinets, or simply buy a few plants for the garden". It also told me that if I clicked on the attached link, I might be in with the chance of winning a £500 voucher. However, I think on this occasion, it might not be all it seems. I'm really not convinced that bq@yazmin.homeybottom.com is an official B&Q email address.

❒❒❒❒❒

MORE weirdness from the world of education. Turnham Primary School in south-east London is now insisting that all three-year-olds must now sign a contract guaranteeing that that they will be tolerant of various things, including "race, gender, class, ability, faith, sexual orientation or lifestyle", and that they must "refrain from using transphobic language in the school."

I suppose we should be impressed by the fact that all the children are presumably able to read and write at such a tender age of three, although it does not say what action they take if they breach the agreement. Court proceedings to confiscate their yo-yos, perhaps?

Transphobic language? Something to do with those cars that turn into robots?

Rev Katryn Leclezio has found 1,191 caches

Special discovery hanging from tree

It is interesting to find what is in the containers

Treasured pastime firmly on the map

Never mind games consoles, the popular pastime of geocaching brings its own thrills, as ROB COX explains

WITH the variety of entertainment available on games consoles and tablets, the popularity of geocaching to some appears remarkable.

Following a map to different co-ordinates and then filling out a logbook offers, it could be argued, slightly fewer thrills than the latest instalment of Call of Duty.

But the continued expansion of geocaching around the world is down to simple pleasures, an activity which has kept children occupied for years – the humble treasure hunt.

Finding a box hidden in a tree after hours of searching offers the same joyous experience of finding an Easter egg hidden by your parents.

The difference with geocaching is the unprecedented scale on which it is played.

Stashed

More than two million items have been stashed in nooks and crannies across the planet.

The forces of globalisation mean people are travelling more than ever, making the game impossible to complete and playable almost anywhere.

In the West Midlands geocaching is proving increasingly popular, with thousands of hidden items to find and log online.

For those unclear about how it works, game players use GPS-enabled devices – usually mobile phones – to find containers that are hidden in public areas by other geocachers.

The idea is to search online before setting out, enter co-ordinates into your device, and then use your wits to track down the exact location.

Most containers have a log book which can be filled out, and the box is returned to its hiding place.

Once back in the warmth of their own homes gamers can record their finds online and leave comments.

Rev Katryn Leclezio all ready to go with her GPS device

Feedback is about prestige for the cache hider, and considered a reward for hiding the box in the first place.

Some boxes contain items which can be taken, as long as they are replaced.

There is also an ethical side to geocaching which gamers voluntarily abide by. The rules are as follows.

* Don't leave obscene comments or materials behind for others. The idea is for geocaching to be family friendly.

* Respect local laws, including property boundaries. Caches must be placed in public areas. But anyone can set one up.

* Never move or remove a cache and log any issues with damaged caches, missing logbooks or inaccurate cache information. It is then up to the cache owner to take action.

* Respect for the environment around each cache. 'Cache In Trash Out' events events are regularly held with cachers taking bags and picking litter as they go.

And, as mentioned, if you take something from a cache, leave something in return.

In the Black Country, there a few more prolific at finding caches than the vicar at St Peter's Church in Cradley, Rev Katryn Leclezio.

Since starting back in 2001 she has found 1,191 caches and has hidden around 15 of her own, including some in the churchyard.

She explained there are thousands in the Black Country and some are more difficult to find than others.

"Some of them can be really hard to find," she said. "I was out with a colleague the other day in Netherton. We got to the spot the co-ordinates were pointing to and it was saying it was in someone's garden.

"We realised that couldn't be it and when we checked the terrain rating was just one and the difficulty to find rating was five.

"So we looked at a map and found that the Netherton tunnels went under where we were. We ended up going into the tunnel three times until we found it."

The 53-year-old has geocached around the world from South Africa to Scandinavia to Cyprus.

Each week on her day off she will go off to find another cache, and while on holiday she likes to find 'at least' one per day.

Of the hundreds she has located she says the ingenuity of some of the cache owners in the Midlands is among the best in the world.

"Some people have the cleverest ideas," she said. "We were near Hanbury Hall in Worcestershire doing a circular walk of around 10 or 12. But there was one we just could not find.

"The GPS signal was great so we knew we were within a metre of it. It said it was by a stile but I had felt all around it and must have lifted every stone there was.

Canister

"It wasn't until we went to go over it that I noticed the arrow sign was wiggling around. Someone had hollowed it out and put a little film canister inside with the log inside."

The popularity of geocaching could also be attributed to its ability to evolve and expand.

Rev. Leclezio says what has really taken off in the Black Country area is the concept of EarthCache.

These are geology-related caches where, instead of a box to find, it teaches you about a particular geographical feature.

This development follows on from 'geocoins' and 'geobugs' inside hidden boxes.

These items have tags on them with a tracking number. When the finder enters the number into the geocaching website it reveals the item's 'mission'.

Rev. Leclezio once hid a toy giraffe, which has now been travelling the world for four years. Its mission is to return home, but has since been recorded as far away as Cape Town and Slovakia, so it could be away a while yet.

It seems the simple pleasure of finding hidden 'treasure' is just as appealing in the digital age as ever before.

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Visitor centre will 'disfigure' beauty spot

I READ with dismay of the visitor centre that has been given planning permission by Bromsgrove District Council. This is a decision that will have far more impact on the people of Dudley than the citizens of Bromsgrove, so it seems inappropriate that the final decision on this significant development should rest with their council.

It also seems illogical to create another entrance to the Hagley Hall estate, particularly when it will be situated so far from the hall itself. No doubt this was done to avoid protest from the residents of the village.

Placing the new entrance and visitor centre on the A456 is unwise as this is already a very busy road and gaining access and egress to and from the estate could be quite hazardous.

No doubt traffic calming measures will be brought in which will then create traffic congestion in the area. Bromsgrove Council appear to be rather good at this as can be seen by the traffic island 'improvements' at the new housing development in Hagley.

However, the worst aspect of this development is that it being carried out on Green Belt land that is also adjacent to the National Trust owned Clent Hills. It most certainly will detract from the views from these hills.

Once the centre has been built and is operational no doubt there will be 'needs' and 'economic' benefits found to justify further developments in the area. My great fear is that for the people of Dudley and South Birmingham our only area of outstanding natural beauty could eventually be heavily disfigured by this breach of the sanctity of the Green Belt.

D CARTWRIGHT
Halesowen

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
Dudley Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

EMAIL
dudley.chrons@
expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

GP crisis has to be sorted out

LAST week my husband tried to get a GP appointment because he was feeling very poorly. We thought it was flu but he was feeling worse.

He was told at the surgery he had no chance of an appointment and to go to a walk-in centre about four miles away. He was so ill my son took his dad to Russells Hall A&E department. They saw him right away and said if my son had left it one more day he would be in hospital with pneumonia.

Cameron and Miliband should stop arguing like school children, blaming each other about the state of the NHS and try living in our world. We're the ones that are suffering.

They find millions of pounds for foreign aid but there is never enough money for our needs. Like all NHS needs this GP situation is getting worse. They can bet their sweet lives that they won't get my vote.

M JONES
Tipton

Pension not another benefit, it is earned

VERY pleased to receive a letter from the pension service saying I will get an increase in my state pension. Not so pleased that it is described as a general increase in benefits.

I do not look on myself as receiving benefits. I receive a pension which I have earned through paying tax for 50 years, part of which was used to fund pensions for people already retired. I also, like millions of others, paid graduated pension and state earnings related contributions with the promise of receiving a greater pension on retirement.

I find that as the demands on the state increase more and more often state pensions are referred to as benefits. When a pie chart was shown recently pensions were 50 percent of the welfare payments. Is this a deliberate ploy to eventually phase out the right to an automatic state pension?

I feel convinced that the retirement age will become a thing of the past. People will no longer automatically be able to stop work just because they have reached a certain age, rather they will have to be signed off as not fit by a doctor in order to receive a 'benefit'.

One more question, benefits are not taxed, so if a state pension is a benefit why is it taxed?

R GWILLIAMS
Brierley Hill

Fifth rate politicians lack respect

AFTER watching the first election debate I thought that's enough for me. Despite that I still gave it another go but never again.

It was just like watching and listening to a gang of kids in the playground (sorry kids) bawling and shouting their heads off, what a load of rubbish.

Also relating to the playground was the lack of respect. I have always believed that all people have their right of opinion whether you agree with them or not.

The only laugh of the night came when David Dimbleby tried to make out the audience wasn't being biased.

There must be thousands, if not millions, who watched the debates over the last few nights and must be wondering how have we come to this.

What has gone wrong that we have ended up with a load of fifth rate politicians? God help us.

S BIRD
Ettingshall

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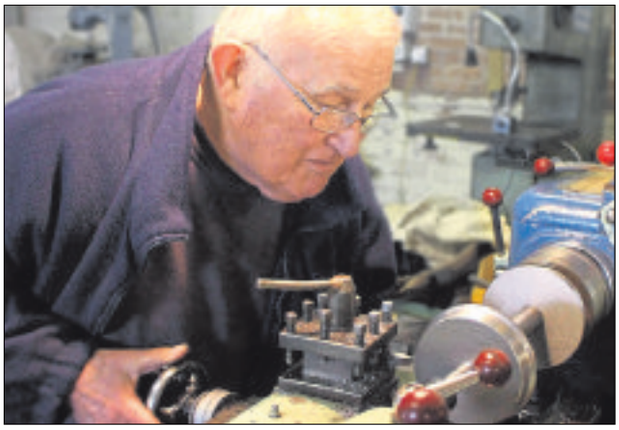

Hard at work – Charles Clowes using a lathe

Concreting the base for the new tunnel

McAuliffe Group digging the cutting for the new tunnel

Mike Amith on the GNR Atlantis

Miniature railway hobby is still on the right track

Richard Smith and the late Ron Haddock laying track

Members building the signal box

FOR more than 30 years the Wolverhampton & District Model Engineering Society has been bringing together people interested in stationary engines, traction engines, aircraft, powered boats and most of all miniature railways.

It all began when Jack Acton placed a newspaper advert and the society was formed with monthly meetings.

For 10 years they only had a portable track which they set up at country fetes and the like, but then they had the chance to build a permanent miniature railway at Baggeridge Country Park, now open every Sunday and Bank Holiday during the summer months.

MEMORY LANE

By Alec Brew

Shortly after opening, an adventure playground was built alongside the railway, ideal for a family day out. The society is now extending the track with phase one including a new loop and tunnel

The society still takes a portable track to a few events each year, and on Sunday, May 10 they will be laying a line through Tettenhall Station to commemorate the 90th anniversary since the line through Tettenhall was opened.

It will be the first time people will be able to ride a train through Tettenhall station since the line closed 50 years ago.

Mike Smith driving the GNR Atlantic on raised track for smaller engines

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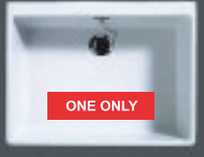

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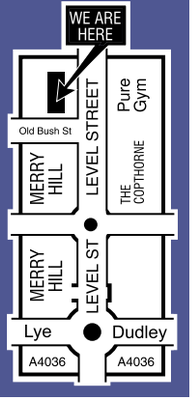

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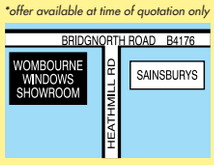

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More than 1,000 jobs at complex

A RECRUITMENT day is being held at the Genting Arena at the National Exhibition Centre as the drive to find 1,100 staff for the new Resorts World entertainment complex gets underway.

People interested in jobs at the casino, four-star boutique hotel, spa and shops can go along to the arena in Pentigo Way on Wednesday, May 6, from 10am to 8pm. Or they can register online at www.resortsworldbirmingham.co.uk/careers website. The new compelx is due to open at the NEC this summer and will include an 11-screen IMAX cinema operated by Cineworld, a conference centre called The Vox and an Asian-themed spa.

A free shuttle bus will run between Birmingham Moor Street Station and the Arena every hour, 9am to 6pm, on the day.

I feared for my life says Pc who clung onto a stolen car

A POLICE officer clung onto a stolen car as the banned driver sped away after stealing fuel from a petrol station, a judge heard.

Pc Christopher Howell was clinging to a stolen Citroen C4 as it sped off the Co-op forecourt in Dudley Port, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard.

But he was forced to throw himself clear after realising he would be struck by a parked vehicle, said Mr David Iles, prosecuting.

"The officer could see he would be knocked from the Citroen and so broke free and rolled across the forecourt as the driver left at speed," said Mr Illes. Pc Howell, who was taken to hospital for cuts and bruises, said: 'I feared for my life,' the court heard.

He had been on patrol when spotting the petrol pump was feeding fuel through a rear window of the Citroen into a large container.

Driver Craig Williams, of Colbourne Road, Tipton, saw the officer approaching and sped off, abandoning his accomplice who was left holding the fuel pump.

Mr Iles explained: "The car left with wheels spinning and the officer hanging on while shouting for the driver to stop." The Citroen was on false plates and had been stolen by 40-year-old Williams from Great Bridge Cars in Great Bridge Street, narrowly missing a salesman.

Williams stole two other cars from MJC Motors in Queens Road, Smethwick and Cars and Commercial at Stallings Lane, Kingswinford. They were sold to fund his drug habit.

Williams pleaded guilty to assaulting a police officer, theft, dangerous driving and driving while disqualified. He was jailed for two years nine months and banned from driving for three years.

Homes plan for hospital site

PLANS to redevelop a former hospital in Dudley into more than 150 homes have been submitted.

Wates Living Space has formally submitted the plans for the Guest Hospital site to Dudley Council after the long-awaited proposals were unveiled to residents at a public consultation last week.

A total of 157 homes would be built on the land, opposite the Black Country Living Museum, 39 of which would be council-owned properties. The rest would be privately sold.

The developer is hoping to begin work at the site later this year but has warned there could be a further delay before work starts due to mine shafts that have to be located and filled.

Law firm sponsor cricket club

Halesowen Cricket Club chairman Richard Evans (left) and CBCT director Neil Mocroft

HALESOWEN Cricket Club has announced a major sponsorship deal with West Bromwich and Stratford-upon-Avon law firm Clark Brookes Turner Cary (CBTC).

The firm is to inject a "significant sum" to help support the Birmingham and District League side this summer

As part of the package CBTC will be utilising the facilities to target a part of the Black Country where it has previously had only a minimal presence.

Kevin Drew, a senior associate solicitor with CBTC, said: "We will be looking to actively build our profile and attract new clients.

"It will be a return to my old stamping ground as director Neil Mocroft and I used to work out of Halesowen and Stourbridge in the 1980s and 1990s. This is going to be a win-win for both the club and ourselves."

The one year rolling deal will see CBTC hold meetings and conferences at the ground.

It will be backing the club with perimeter board advertising and it will be holding half a dozen games per year on the ground to entertain clients, other firms and contacts.

CBTC has a strong cricketing contingent. Mr Drew, a residential conveyancing specialist, has been a player, coach, and chairman of Penn Cricket Club and is chairman of North Worcestershire Cricket Development Group. He holds the voluntary role of legal director at Worcestershire Cricket Board.

Mr Mocroft is a Worcestershire CCC member and three members of the team still put on their whites – Richard Pinning, Omar Sadique and solicitor Jai Najran.

Theatre hosts special relaxed style of show

WOLVERHAMPTON Grand Theatre has announced a special 'relaxed performance' of a family show for people with special needs.

The performance of Dr Seuss's The Cat in the Hat on September 5 will be tailored for audience members who will benefit from a more relaxed theatre environment, such as those on the autistic spectrum.

The Saturday show will start at 10.30am and will be the third relaxed performance to be hosted by the theatre, following the success of previous relaxed pantomine performances.

Small changes are made to sound levels and lighting intensities to reduce levels of stress that the performance may induce to those with sensory or communication disorders.

Tickets for the relaxed performance are £12.50 each.

For more information call 01902 573 311.

Warning on fake tickets

FESTIVAL-GOERS are being warned to avoid buying tickets from unofficial sources as trading standards officers launch a crackdown on fakes.

Staffordshire County Council experts have issued the advice as tickets are snapped up for some of this summer's major events, including the V Festival at Weston Park. People could be at risk of spending hundreds of pounds on counterfeits, they warn.

A helpline is available on 01785 330356.

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Captivating talk on war memorial

Amblecote History

MIKE Perkins gave his traditional welcome before giving a brief update on current local matters.

He then handed over to chairman Pat Martin to introduce John Hale for a talk about The Dudley War Memorial – the men, the battles and the burials.

The 1914-18 Dudley War Memorial is located in Priory Street and was commemorated by Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin as part of the 1926-28 Coroner's Court development which adjoins Dudley Council House.

The memorial features 720 faintly carved names in stone, of which 717 men are soldiers from Dudley town.

John had undertaken much research to identify and correlate the names on the memorial using a book from the library to cross-check names with those inscribed on the memorial itself.

A Roll of Honour written by the Dudley Teacher's Centre contained 550 names and he then needed to reference the War Widows index.

At present he has identified and associated all but 20 of the Dudley men on the memorial.

John's talk was captivating, informative and prompted many questions. He was roundly applauded for his excellent presentation before being formally thanked by Pat Martin.

In May 13 in The Lehr Theatre at the Ruskin Centre, Kevin Goodman will talk about 'The Black Death and how it affected the West Midlands'.

Pressing engagement from guest speaker

From left, registrar Jan Burrows, outings secretary and Lisa Williams, Express & Star

Dudley South Ladies Luncheon Club

AT their April meeting, 39 members enjoyed an excellent three-course meal at the Kingfisher Hotel, Wall Heath.

Chairman Mary Jones was delighted to welcome several visitors and hoped the friendly atmosphere would encourage them to return.

Speaker Lisa Williams has worked in journalism for 18 years and is now the Lifestyle Editor at the Express & Star. She explained how the paper had to adapt to modern technology. With the advent of the internet, news is instantly accessible and the paper has had to change to accommodate this.

Lisa works on the Woman and Weekend supplement which features celebrity interviews, real life stories, fashion and more light-hearted stories. She added that the editorial teams all worked hard to try to appeal to all ages.

Lisa engaged really well with her audience resulting in a host of questions.

The speaker on Friday, May 8 will be Nigel Wiggin on Old Hall Stainless Steel, on June 12 Ruth Lowe will talk about Mary Quant fashions and on July 10, Ray Sturdy will entertain with a see and hear quiz.

Thinking caps on for quiz

Wordsley 'M' TG

THE April meeting was opened by chairman for the day Liz Hubbard and as the scheduled speaker Chris Smith was unavailable, Liz introduced Rosemary Prosser who talked about her decision to start a farmhouse bed & breakfast in the early 1980s.

It was a light-hearted talk with many humorous episodes. Liz Hubbard gave the vote of thanks.

The Inter Guild Quiz is on June 1 at Stourbridge Football Club. Ann Birchell also gave details of a race day on June 24 which includes a fish and chip lunch and a competition of the most elegant or quirky hat. There will be a Harvest Lunch in October and the carol service on December 12.

Liz will host the coffee morning on May 21 and Doreen Davies on June 10.

On May 18 Mike Guy will demonstrate, with audience participation, 'The Ins and Outs of Origami', the art of paper folding.

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Tribute to pub landlord and former pro wrestler

A FORMER professional wrestler and well-known pub landlord has died. Ian Stenner was 64.

Tributes have been paid to Mr Stenner, who was originally from Wolverhampton but lived in Cannock for many years and adopted the name Pat Patton when he turned pro-wrestler in 1977.

He was known for wearing brightly-coloured judo outfits working for Join Promotions under promoter Max Crabtree during the 1980s. He made his television debut in 1979 on ITV's World of Sport and went on to make 40 appearances.

Wolves fan Ian also worked in the pub trade with his wife Susan, 65, and retired from the ring in 1987 to concentrate on working for Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries.

Pat Patton in his wrestling days

Pat and Susan behind the bar

Ian Stenner, known as Pat Patton, with his wife, Susan, in 2013

Practise

Together they ran The Apple Tree in Coseley and Samson Blewitt in Hednesford for 18 months each but spent the majority of their career , 17 years, at The White Hart in Cannock.

Mr Stenner died on April 2 from pneumonia a year after being diagnosed with lung cancer.

Mrs Stenner, who was married to Ian for 43 years, said her husband enjoyed life to the full.

"When he started wrestling it was a big shock for me. He met a chap in the industry called Johnny Holt, who was known as Johnny England in the ring, and used to practise with him at lunchtime at work.

"Ian went with him to Manchester for a trial and came back and said he was going to start. It was a big shock.

"I did enjoy it, and used to go at the weekend to see him. When he got his first TV appearance that was a big honour for him and he wrestled at the Royal Albert Hall for a match. He became Big Daddy's tag team partner and was very well regarded in wrestling and the pub trade."

Mr Stenner is survived by two sons Simon, 42 and Craig, 49, as well as four grandchildren. He had two sisters Susan, 60, and Anne, 57.

When he retired in 2004, he enjoyed travelling and loved his holidays to America in particular. Mrs Stenner said: "We had a good life in the pub trade doing what we wanted to do. Ian was quite loud and everyone knew when he was about. He was fun, fun loving, kind, and enjoyed life to the full.

"He was a big Wolves fan and enjoyed going down to watch them. He will be greatly missed."

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No logic over lack of nurse training

DEVOLUTION of power, so it isn't concentrated all in one place, seems to be high on the politicians' agenda, but is it too much to ask for a little joined-up thinking?

Take the NHS, for example.

On a visit to Wolverhampton the shadow health secretary Andy Burnham is as much at a loss as anyone else to explain the logic of not funding more training places for nurses, while hospital trusts are so desperate for staff they go to places like Greece and Italy to find them. Mr Burnham says he'll sort this out if he gets into the Department of Health in May.

Whether Labour's so-called 'mansion tax' and a promise to pump billions more into the NHS will solve it is another matter entirely.

Deny

It makes no sense to deny the opportunity of a career in nursing to a young person for want of funding, only for another arm of the NHS to then use public money to bring someone in from overseas. That's absolutely no criticism of the foreign nurses.

At the moment they're falling over themselves to promise devolution to the English regions – something that might be a necessary sweetener if we are sold short in order to give Scotland what it wanted in exchange for not breaking up the United Kingdom.

One of the possible power handovers from Whitehall to the West Midlands could be around the issue of skills. There's an argument that under the coalition the oversight of education was concentrated too much in London. Is it going to be any better handing over skills to local areas without the rest of education?

Andy Burnham – nurse shortage

George Osborne – same policies

The Black Country Chamber of Commerce was less than impressed by Labour's planned crackdown on employing migrant workers on low pay.

Ninder Johal thinks the party is using 'anti-employer' rhetoric while failing to tackle what he considers to be a bigger issue, namely that education isn't up to scratch. The chamber says 'our schools, colleges and universities continue to produce young people who are unemployable'. Ed Miliband is adamant that good employers have nothing to fear.

But it does expose a couple of holes in Labour's 'guarantee' of an apprenticeship for every young person who makes the grade. Firstly, how do you guarantee a job when it requires employers to create the apprenticeship?

Secondly, what do you do about the ones who don't make the grade? Mr Miliband says Labour will help those who don't make the grade too. So that's all right then.

Thousands of jobs, hundreds of thousands of apprenticeships and hundreds of thousands of people getting the right to buy their homes; the Tory economic plan for the West Midlands is stat-tastic.

Chancellor George Osborne's announcement in the West Midlands would have been impressive, were it not essentially the same policies we've been hearing for the past weeks.

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Aim for the stars, says TV professor

SCIENCE superstar Professor Brian Cox officially opened Dudley College's new engineering and manufacturing campus, declaring it a place where students' dreams can come true.

As a man who is known for gazing at the stars, it was the scientist and television presenter who was in focus as he toured the £7 million facility yesterday.

Professor Cox was the guest of honour as Dudley Council bosses celebrated the official launch of the campus in Priory Road, which they hope will give students the skills to be the manufacturers and engineers of the future.

He was given the chance to test the college equipment and also delivered a lecture to Year 10 pupils from schools across Dudley and Sandwell.

Professor Cox said facilities such as the Dudley campus were vitally important to the future of the country. He explained: "In this country we know we will need more than a million engineers at all levels, from apprenticeships to PHDs, by 2020. That's not going to happen but we must find more engineers in this country."

The campus offers courses for more than 1,200 students and the curriculum has been developed and delivered in close partnership with Aston University and employers.

Professor Cox said opportunities were endless for young people who acquire qualifications in science and engineering. "There will be a guaranteed job – they will be in demand. But the most important thing is how exciting it is to learn about science and engineering. There is a possibility for these students to be involved in building aeroplane engines and Mars rovers."

Professor Cox first found fame as a member of the band D:Ream in the 1990s and he has been widely credited with helping to make science cool.

Dudley College principal Lowell Williams said: "He is a science superstar. We want more young people to be enthusiastic about science, particularly girls.

"Brian Cox embodies a working man who has become superstar in science.

"We get hung up on everything happening in the exam room and we want kids to do well and get their maths and English but it's all about learning technical skills.

"I am super proud for Dudley College and for the Black Country."

Star selfie — Prof Brian Cox with engineering student Cain Costello at Dudley Advance College

Many thousands of revellers on streets for Sikh festival

THE streets of the Black Country were awash with blue and orange as tens of thousands of revellers turned out to celebrate the Sikh festival of Vaisakhi.

Holy processions took place in Walsall and Sandwell yesterday, with the latter culminating in a spectacular celebration in Birmingham's Handsworth Park that was attended by more than 100,000 people.

The festival celebrates the creation of the Khalsa in 1699 — one of the most significant events in the history of Sikhism — and also marks the coming of spring.

Sandwell's parade is part of one of the biggest Vaisakhi celebrations outside India's Punjab region. It started in Smethwick, with people gathering at the Gurdwara Baba Sang in St Paul's Road from 7am.

The large crowd — many of them dressed in the Khalsa's traditional colours of orange and blue — began to gather to the tune of a steady beat set by a band of drummers.

The procession, known as Nagar Kirtan, was led by a group of barefoot sweepers who cleared the streets ahead of dozens of flag bearers.

Refreshments were served up free of charge by an army of volunteers.

They included Gurmit Singh, 41, who attended the parade with his father, Mohinder Singh, 59. They handed out bags of fruit and soft drinks to those taking part.

He said: "It is a great gathering. A big part of being a Sikh is helping others, its central to our culture. Giving out food and drink is something we do as a gesture of goodwill to everyone involved."

Pay rises worth £10k for bosses at hospitals

HOSPITAL chief executives in the West Midlands were awarded pay rises worth up to £10,000, it has been revealed.

An investigation into senior directors' pay packets unveiled £35 million in increases across the country despite unprecedented pressures on NHS spending.

An audit found some bosses in England and Wales enjoyed pay hikes of six per cent, well above frontline staff.

By Rob Golledge

Annual accounts show that bosses of hospitals in Wolverhampton, Walsall and Dudley jumped into higher pay bands worth up to £10,000 extra a year.

David Loughton, chief executive of the Royal Wolverhampton Trust which runs New Cross Hospital and Cannock Hospital, was paid a salary of between £210,000-£215,000 last year up from a £205,000 and £210,000 band.

Medical director Jonathan Odum was paid between £130,000-£135,000 up from the £125,000 and £130,000 scale.

At Walsall Manor, chief executive Richard Kirby was paid between £150,000-£155,000, while former chief operating officer Jayne Tunstall was paid between £105,000-£110,000. This compares to £145,00-£150,000 and £100,000-£105,000 respectively the year before.

At the Dudley Group, which runs Russells Hall Hospital, chief executive Paula Clarke was paid a salary of between £180,000-£185,000, up from £175,000 and £180,000.

At Sandwell and West Birmingham NHS Trust, chief executive Toby Lewis was paid between £180,000-£185,000 during his first year at the trust.

And at the University Hospitals of North Midlands Trust, which runs Stafford Hospital, chief executive Mark Hackett was paid between £160,000-£165,000 in his first 12 months.

Sue James, chief executive of Derby Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, formerly boss at Walsall Manor, reportedly netted a £155,000 payout by using a loophole where she 'retired' for 24 hours before taking up the same job again.

Derby Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust said Mrs James was allowed to withdraw her pension early under rules of the NHS pension scheme.

An investigation found some NHS executives in England earned more than £1 million last year, while directors at a handful of the worst-performing hospitals received pay packages of up to £5,000 a day.

More aircraft in show

ORGANISERS of the RAF Cosford Air Show have announced extra aircraft which will go on show during this year's event.

Thousands of visitors to the show, on Sunday, June 14, will be treated to a search and rescue role demonstration from the iconic RAF Sea King HAR3 in what is likely to be one of the aircraft's final public appearances.

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Mystery and mirth in a Cornish mansion

Rebecca, Birmingham Rep

CORNWALL-BASED Kneehigh are one of the country's best touring theatre companies and take the Cornish connection further with Rebecca, a vintage country house drama by that county's best known author, Daphne Du Maurier, with Poldark actor Tristan Sturrock in a lead role.

With it's crashing waves and sea shanty singing fishermen, this production couldn't be more Cornish flavoured unless they dished out pasties and clotted cream teas in the interval.

Director Emma Rice has crafted a revision of the story in which gothic gloom is tempered by broad comedy. A fine ensemble cast clamber around Leslie Travers' evocative set that blends crumbling Manderley mansion with a boat washed up in a cove.

Humour comes from Katy Owen as an enthusiastic young Welsh footman, whilst Lizzie Winkler and Andy Williams amuse as a boozy pair of 1930s party animals.

The drama is supplied by Tristan Sturrock as the tortured Maxim de Winter. Imogen Sage simmers with jealous passion as the new Mrs de Winter living in the shadow of glamorous first wife, the deceased Rebecca, and pitted against Emily Raymond's contemptuous Mrs Danvers. This excellent production continues at The Rep until Saturday. **Leon Burakowski**

REVIEWS

Relentless joker was exhausting

Tim Vine, Symphony Hall, Birmingham

I have been well and truly Tim Vined — pretty much in the manner I was once Ken Dodded when I went to one of his shows and didn't get out of the theatre for five hours.

Herein lies the difference. Ken's jokes are constant but Tim's are relentless. His material is shot out in 90 minutes, leaving the audience hardly any time to laugh, let alone breathe.

His brilliance floored me. Pun after pun, joke after jape, I was left needing food, drink and a lie-down by the end. I had heard of his smart reputation of walking away with the honours at the Edinburgh Festival but I had no idea he was such a dynamo.

Tim held us in the palm of his hand from the moment he stepped out of a chimney pot wearing what looked like cricket whites and a striped boating jacket. His quick-fire wittiness is interspersed with downright silliness, little songs and a passion for sharing his innocent take on life. Class — but exhausting. **Sarah Cowen-Strong**

Another stunning performance by the sparkling Alexandra Burke

Spectacular show proves Alexandra still has X factor

The Bodyguard, Grand Theatre

IT may be seven years since Alexandra Burke won that talent show but Hallelujah she still has the X factor.

As lead Rachel in The Bodyguard she literally held the packed Grand Theatre in the palm of her hand, bringing rapturous applause for the closing number I will Always Love You as she was raised on a platform above the stage.

The effects were quite stunning although they went a bit overboard with the smoke. In fact everything about the show was spectacular. Any worries that Alexandra could sing but not act were soon swept aside and she teamed perfectly with the very starchy bodyguard Frank, played by Stuart Reid.

Also with a great voice was Melissa James who played Rachel's jealous sister Nicki, but tugging on the heartstrings was Rachel's young son Fletcher played by Jhayheim Davis, so cute, and boy could he sing and dance too.

A wealth of great numbers, Greatest Love of All, One Moment in Time, All the Man that I Need and the cast came on at the end to get the audience singing along to I Wanna Dance With somebody, a lovely touch leaving everybody in a party mood.

It runs at the Grand until Saturday. **SA**

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Veterans plan to stand up to Britain First marchers

MILITARY veterans have announced they are planning to hold a counter demonstration in Dudley against far right group Britain First.

By Richard Guttridge

The group, which acts under the name 'I'm a UK veteran and not a racist, and proud of it', says it has been angered by Britain First's use of the military to 'inflame public opinion'.

Members said they were offended by the use of images of murdered soldier Lee Rigby.

They are also unhappy that Britain First sells pin badges bearing the image of the poppy.

More than 2,000 members of Britain First are planning to protest over plans to build a mosque off Hall Street next Saturday, May 9. The military veterans group, which has around 500 members, says it will hold a counter demonstration at the same time. The ex-servicemen will be led by John McKnight, a Royal Navy veteran of 16 years, who said he plans to confront Britain First leader Paul Golding, who is expected to attend.

Confront

Mr McKnight said: "A small group of us intend to confront Mr Golding at this march to show him what we think of him.

"Our plan is to stand in front of him and his pseudo military bunch of bullies, whilst wearing military charity shirts and our regimental service berets, and hold up a white feather each, to signify his cowardice.

"We intend to make our statement in a peaceful manner and will not rise to any taunts that they throw at us."

Mr McKnight added: "We feel that once our statement is shown to the world, people will wake up to the fact that Britain First do not represent or support us in any way."

The protest comes just three months after the English Defence League and their opponents held demonstrations in the town centre.

Traders in Dudley say mass protests in the town are 'destroying' their businesses.

Dudley Police have organised public meetings to discuss the policing operation. More than 50 people attended a meeting at Dudley Council House on Thursday to raise their concerns.

Businessman Tony Swannie, owner of Plaza Mall in the High Street, said the protests was hitting traders in the pocket.

"There are businesses in Dudley that are barely surviving," he said.

"These protests are destroying our businesses. We cannot afford to lose another day of trading."

A hotline — 07824824468 — will relay information on the protest. Police hold a second public meeting on Wednesday at the council house.

Philippa is compere for Songsters

TELEVISION presenter Philippa Tomson, who is originally from Stourbridge, will be the compere for a Kingswinford choir's spring concert later this month.

The Gentlemen Songsters Male Voice Choir will be performing at the recently re-opened Dudley Town Hall on Saturday, May 16, at 7.30pm.

The Songsters' special guests for the concert will be the Cradley Heath-based choir Voices In Harmony, formerly known as The Sandwell Community Choir, formed in 1997.

Tickets

Philippa Tomson, aged 37, is a former chief reporter with the Express & Star who began her career in journalism on the Dudley Chronicle. She has also been featured on ITV Central and presented the weather forecasts for Daybreak and GMTV.

Tickets for the concert are £10 and are available by calling the ticket hotline on 01746 763850.

Life-saving medics training for hazards

James Pitt, from Tividale, squeezes through the course during the training event held near Bridgnorth

IT looked like a full-blown disaster area, but skilled medics were just carrying out vital training.

The niche team of Black Country paramedics, who are called on to treat people stuck in difficult places, have been busy honing their skills at an outdoor adventure centre near Bridgnorth.

Live The Adventure, in Stottesdon, played host to the annual training of the West Midlands Hazardous Area Response Team, known as HART, by opening its doors free of charge.

The team of six were underground at the centre after their instructors set up an emergency disaster scenario where someone needing medical attention had become stuck in the confined tunnel system.

The team had to monitor the safety of the situation, get in and locate the person before carefully extracting them to safety.

Group swoops to save metal pressings jobs

NEARLY 40 jobs have been saved after a Black Country metal pressings firm swooped to buy a Birmingham rival out of administration.

The deal has created a new metal pressings group with a two-year plan targeting sales of £10 million.

Millennium Assemblies was founded last year to look for opportunities to acquire new businesses to work alongside sister company Millennium Pressed Metal. Founded in 2000 by Anna Stevenson, Millennium Pressed Metal has grown to employ 45 people and two years ago moved to a new 33,000 sq ft based in West Bromwich after outgrowing its Dudley home.

Now Anna is working with manufacturing veteran John Faulkner, the former managing director of Tipton's Cab Automotive, to create the Millennium Manufacturing Group.

Its first move has been to buy JJ Engineering, at Garretts Green, saving 39 jobs. It will now be renamed Millennium Assemblies, with Mr Faulkner taking the helm.

The acquisition, supported by Crowe Clark Whitehill and the Wilkes Partnership, was completed late on Friday afternoon. The terms have not been disclosed.

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Zulu culture on way to arts centre

AFRICAN singers and dancers in group Zulu Tradition will be performing in Stourbridge.

The group is appearing at Glasshouse Arts Centre, Wollaston Road, on Friday at 7.30pm.

This vibrant company reaches back into the past to preserves ancient skills while stretching forwards to contemporary Africa.

Direct from Durban in KwaZulu Natal, individual members of Zulu Tradition have performed in special events at Buckingham Palace for Prince Charles, at the South African High Commission as well as at major festivals across the UK.

Mandela

They appered on national TV in both the UK and in South Africa when performing for the first official Mandela Day at the British Museum in July 2010.

Tickets for the show, which is part of the Black Country Touring programme, are £7 and £9 on the door or call (01384) 399430.

Molly Higgins, aged 15, from Kinver, is Europe's top young Irish dancer after giving up football

Euro victory for village's young lady of the dance

SHE traded in her football boots for dancing shoes, and now Molly Higgins has been crowned under-16s European champion in Irish dance at a competition in Germany

The 15-year-old from Kinver wasn't keen when she first joined her friends at the Katie Collins School of Irish Dance, but she soon caught the Riverdance bug.

She said: "I moved from Bristol and quite a few girls were joining and I just wanted to meet some new friends.

"I was quite a tomboy and I would have wanted to play football instead. It was far too girlie for me. I stuck at it though and now I love it."

It was her second trip to the Düsseldorf-based competition. Last year, she came seventh and was aiming for a top six result in the 2015 competition. But she came first.

"I was really nervous," she admitted. "My dance teacher put a lot of work into it, so I wanted to make her proud. It was a bit stressful, but it was a nice stressful. My mom was there and was really supportive, but she was more nervous than I was.

"I don't remember when I won. It was such a blur. I just started crying hysterically and I looked around, and my mom and Katie were crying as well. It was emotional but happy."

Now she wants to defend her title and work towards the world championships, but she also wants to join a touring company of the worldwide hit Irish dance show Lord of the Dance.

With so much on the horizon, Molly isn't thinking of going back to the football pitch any time soon.

"I quit football," she said. "I do too much dancing now."

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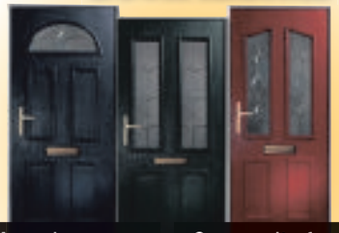

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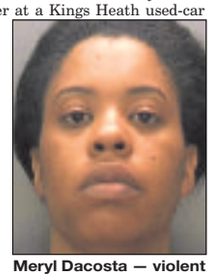
Salesmen attacked during car crime spree

THIEVES who dragged a car salesman around a Black Country garage forecourt as they stole a vehicle have been locked up.

Reuben Hylton and Meryl Dacosta were jailed at Birmingham Crown Court for a crime spree, with Hylton getting three years and Dacosta 18 months.

Their car thefts started in December when 24-year-old Hylton approached a worker at a Kings Heath used-car dealership on Samuel Booth Works about buying a Renault Megane. Once he had the keys to inspect the vehicle, Hylton drove off the £2,600 car without paying. It was found dumped a day later.



Meryl Dacosta — violent

Just four days after the first theft, on December 12, Hylton struck again at a garage on Lower High Street, Cradley Heath, driving off after asking for the keys to a Nissan Qashqai parked on the forecourt.

Over the next two months Hylton, of no fixed address, used the same tactic to steal cars from a Hyundai garage in Sheldon, used-car dealerships on Gossey lane, Kitts Green; Dudley Road, Lye; and St Johns Road in Stourbridge.

Burka

Dacosta, of Boscombe Road, Tyseley, punched a salesman and stole a car from a garage on Northgate, Aldridge, on January 30.

Wearing a burka to disguise her appearance, the 27-year-old took a Vauxhall Astra for a test drive and when the salesman became suspicious he pulled on the handbrake and stopped the vehicle. The dealer was punched to the face before she drove off, leaving him at the side of the road.

The pair were arrested after the Ford Focus they stole from Old Mill Garage, Stourbridge, on February 5 was spotted on the M5.

Dacosta had dragged a salesman along the forecourt when trying to steal a car. The 60-year-old was not seriously hurt and was able to raise the alarm as she sped off in a car with Hylton, who had been waiting nearby.

Motorway police stopped the pair at Frankley Services and the car they were travelling in was found to have been stolen from a garage in Alvechurch.

Hylton was charged with 19 offences: six counts of stealing motor vehicles from forecourts across the West Midlands; eight counts of driving while disqualified; two counts of making off without paying for petrol; one count of assault and another charge of breaching an anti-social behaviour order.

Dacosta was also charged in connection with the Stourbridge Motor Company theft and Aldridge robbery.

The pair pleaded guilty and were sentenced on April 17. Hylton received a 40-month custodial sentence and a 44-month driving ban, while Dacosta was jailed for 18 months.

Missing Magic plea

A CAT has gone missing from a care home near Stourbridge after climbing into the back of a visitor's car. Magic the cat went missing from Forester Nursing Home, in Walton Pool Lane, Clent, on April 1. It is believed he got out at The Swan Inn, Fairfield, but has not been seen since. He is a white and black short haired Tom. Residents and staff miss Magic. Call 01562 883068 if you have seen him.

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What rotters

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels
Page 23

Time of her life

Dirty Dancing star –
Page 23

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Jimmy Carr

Saturday, 8pm
Civic Hall, Wolverhampton
Often described as the hardest working comedian on the circuit, and a glance at his tour itinerary shows why, the gag machine with the distinctive guffaw is back with his Funny Business show. **See www.wolvescivic.co.uk**

Joe McElderry

Saturday, 7.30pm
Wulfrun Hall, Wolverhampton
The X Factor winner in 2009, the singer from South Shields went on to win Popstar to Operastar and the first series of The Jump. The 23-year-old crooner returns with his Evolution tour. **See www.wolvescivic.co.uk**

Stewart Lee

Saturday, 8pm
Symphony Hall, Birmingham
Lee hasn't had the stadium success of some comedians and that's the way he likes it. He regularly sells out venues and has the respect of other comics, although some have been known to nick his jokes. **See www.thsh.co.uk**

Oh What A Lovely War

Tuesday to Saturday, 7 or 7.30pm, 2pm, Birmingham Rep
Coronation Street's Wendi Peters joins the ensemble cast for a revival of Joan Littlewood's sharp satire contrasting First World War music hall songs with the carnage of the trenches. **See www.birmingham-rep.co.uk**

ROCK & POP

Joe McElderry
Sat at 6.45pm
£15 - £20.90
Wulfrun Hall,
Wolverhampton, WV1 3HH.
01902 552106

Bon Giovi
Friday at 7.30pm
£12 - £13
The Robin 2 Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
01902 401211

S Club 7
Thu at 7.30pm, £40.08 - £51.33
Genting Arena Birmingham, B40 1NT. 0121 780 4141

Beholder
Sat at 6.45pm, £8.55
O2 Academy Birmingham B1 1DB. 0121 622 8250

Valous
Sun at 6pm, £5 adv
The Flapper, Cambrian Wharf, Birmingham, B1 2NU.
0121 236 2421

Clare Maguire
Fri at 8pm, £7
The Glee Club, Birmingham, B5 4TD. 0871 472 0400

COMEDY

Stewart Lee – A Room With A Stew
Sat at 8pm, £21
Symphony Hall,
Birmingham, B1 2EA.
0121 780 3333

Jimmy Carr – Funny Business
Sat at 8pm, £27.50
Grand Theatre, Wolverhampton, WV1 1RD. 0870 320 7000

Comedy & Carousel
Thu at 7pm,
£5 - £19.50
The Glee Club, Birmingham, B5 4TD. 0871 472 0400

Tim Vine
Fri at 7.30pm, £21 - £24.20
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
01543 412121

CLASSICAL & OPERA

Royal Ballet: La Fille Mal Gardée
Tue at 7.15pm, £11 - £18
Light House,Wolverhampton, WV1 1HT.
01902 716055

Rachmaninoff Vespers
Sun at 4pm, £9.50 - £35
Town Hall Birmingham, B3 3DQ.
0121 780 3333

CBSO Haydn in London
Wed at 2.15pm, Thu at 7.30pm,
£12.50 - £41
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. 0121 780 3333

CBSO Friday Night Classics
Fri at 7.30pm,
£10 - £32
Symphony Hall, Birmingham B1 2EA. 0121 780 3333

COUNTRY & FOLK/BLUES

Sandpiper Folk Club Night
Wed at 7.45pm, £2
Pigot Arms, Pattingham, WV6 7BQ. 01902 700207

Black Diamond Singers Night
Fri at 8.30pm, Check for admission charges
The Lamp Tavern,Barford Street, Birmingham, B5 6AH.
0121 622 2599

Common Folk: Singers' Night
Thu at 8.30pm, £1
Pelsall Cricket & Sports Club, Walsall Road,WV3 4BP.
01922 682018

Altan
Thu at 8pm, £18 - £20
mac birmingham, Cannon Hill Park, B12 9QH. 0121 446 3232

Charley Pride
Mon at 7.30pm, £30 - £40
Symphony Hall, Broad Street, Birmingham, B1 2EA.
0121 780 3333

The Full English
Thu at 7.30pm, £21.50
Town Hall Birmingham, B3 3DQ.
0121 780 3333

Rebecca Downes +...
Thu at 7.30pm, £10
The Robin 2 , Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
01902 401211

Dustin Kensrue
Wed at 7pm, £18.50
The Glee Club, 7Birmingham, B5 4TD. 0871 472 0400

ALTERNATIVE & INDIE

Jack Rocks The Road To...
Mon at 7pm - 11pm, £5 adv
The Institute, B5 6DY.
0121 643 0428

Pinkshinyultrablast
Thu at 7pm, £6. adv
The Institute, Birmingham, B5 6DY. 0121 643 0428

SKA/REGGAE

Fudgestock 2015
Sun at 5pm, £5 - £6
The Robin 2 , Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
01902 401211

Balkanic Eruption - CUMBIA SPECIAL, Sat at 9pm, £6
Hare & Hounds, Birmingham, B14 7JZ. 0844 870 0000

WaDaDa - Live Ska Reggae
Mon at 8pm, £10
Hare & Hounds, High Street, Birmingham, B14 7JZ. 0844 870 0000

DANCE

Embraced Burlesque
Sat at 8pm, £10
Newhampton Arts Centre, Wolverhampton, WV1 4AN.
01902 572090

Catapult Club feat. Plastic Factory
Fri at 6pm, £7.05
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. 0121 622 8250

EXHIBITIONS

Artists for Ikon
Fri, Sat, Sun at 11am - 6pm, Mon at 11am - 6pm, Free
Ikon Gallery, Brindleyplace, Birmingham, B1 2HS.
0121 248 0708

Siân Macfarlane
Sun at 12pm - 4pm, Fri, Sat, Tue, Wed, Thu at 10am - 5pm, Free
The New Art Gallery Walsall, WS2 8LG. 01922 654400

St Ives Artists
Sat, Tue, Wed, Thu at 10am - 5pm, Sun at 12pm - 4pm, Free
The New Art Gallery Walsall, WS2 8LG. 01922 654400

Soldier Stories
Fri at 10.30am - 5pm, Sat, Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu at 10am - 5pm, Free
Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, B3 3DH.
0121 303 1966

Faith & Action
Sat, Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu at 10am - 5pm, Fri at 10.30am - 5pm, Free
Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, B3 3DH.
0121 303 1966

Pop in Space
Fri at 10am - 5pm, Sat at 10.30am - 4.30pm, Tue, Wed, Thu at 10am - 5pm, Free
Wolverhampton Art Gallery, WV1 1DU. 01902 552055

The Poetic Impossibility...
Fri at 10am - 5pm, Sat at 10.30am - 4.30pm,
Free, Wolverhampton Art Gallery, WV1 1DU. 01902 552055

The Current Situation
Fri at 10am - 5pm, Sat at 10.30am - 4.30pm, Tue, Wed, Thu at 10am - 5pm,
Free, Wolverhampton Art Gallery, WV1 1DU. 01902 552055

Floralia Festival
Fri, Sat, Sun, Mon at 11am - 5pm, Free. Wightwick Manor, WV6 8EE. 01902 760100

On The Right Tracks
Fri, Sat, Sun, Tue, Wed, Thu at 11am - 5pm,
Free, Bantock House Museum, WV3 9LQ. 01902 552195

Bilston's Happy Housing
Fri at 10am - 1pm, Sat at 11am - 4pm, free,
Bilston Craft Gallery, Mount Pleasant, WV14 7LU.
01902 552507

Found
Fri, Sat at 10am - 5pm, Sun at 12pm - 4pm,
Free, New Art Gallery Walsall, WS2 8LG. 01922 654400

The Clive Beardsmore Gift
Fri, Sat, Tue, Wed, Thu at 10am - 5pm, Sun at 12pm - 4pm, Free
New Art Gallery Walsall, WS2 8LG. 01922 654400

Art From Elsewhere
Sat, Tue, Wed, Thu at 10am - 5pm, Fri at 10.30am - 5pm,
Free, Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, B3 3DH.
0121 303 1966

Love is Enough
Sat, Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu at 10am - 5pm, Fri at 10.30am - 5pm, £3 - £7
Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, B3 3DH. 0121 303 1966

Robert Groves
Fri, Sat, Sun at 11am - 6pm, Mon at 11am - 6pm, Free
Ikon Gallery, Brindleyplace, Birmingham, B1 2HS.
0121 248 0708

A Touch of Glass
Fri, Sat, Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu at 10am - 4pm, Free
Red House Glass Cone, High Street, Stourbridge, DY8 4AZ.
01384 812750

THEATRES

Dirty Dancing
Fri, Sat, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu at 7.30pm, Wed at 2pm, Sat at 2.30pm, £20 - £55
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB. 0844 338 5000

The Bodyguard The Musical
Sat at 2.30pm, Fri, Sat at 7.30pm, £18 - £49.50
Wolverhampton Grand, WV1 1DE. 01902 573320

Collidoscope
Sat at 7.30pm, £8 - £12
Arena Theatre, Wolverhampton, WV1 1SE. 01902 321321

Feed The Beast
Fri, Sat at 7.45pm, Sat at 2.45pm, £12 - £20
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. 0121 236 4455

Rebecca
Fri, Sat at 7.30pm, Sat at 2pm,
£13.50 - £35
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. 0121 236 4455

First Stages - Open House
Sat at 11.30am, 2pm, 3.30pm,
£6 - £9
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. 0121 236 4455

Oh What A Lovely War
Tue at 7pm, Wed, Thu at 7.30pm, Thu at 2pm, £13.50 - £35
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. 0121 236 4455

Sister Act
Tue, Wed, Thu at 7.30pm,
£15 - £18
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
01543 412121

Dirty Rotten Scoundrels
Tue, Wed, Thu at 7.30pm, Wed at 2.30pm, £15.50 - £53.40
New Alexandra Theatre,Birmingham, B5 4DS.
0844 871 3011

The Pirates of Penzance
Fri, Sat at 7.30pm, Sat at 2pm,
£7.50 - £15
The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham, B16 8AE.
0121 643 5858

Sister Act
Tue, Wed, Thu at 7.30pm
£15 - £18
The Crescent Theatre, Birmingham, B16 8AE.
0121 643 5858

A Night at the Music Hall
Wed at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, £14.50
Wolverhampton Grand , WV1 1DE. 01902 573320

Open Door With Bold Text
Tue at 8pm, Free
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. 0121 236 4455

Five Kinds of Silence
Fri, Sat at 7.30pm, £10
The Old Joint Stock, Temple Row West, Birmingham, B2 5NY.
0121 200 1892

Our Day Out
Thu at 7.30pm, £8 - £10
Prince Of Wales Centre, Church Street, Cannock, WS11 1DE.
01543 578762

ACOUSTIC

Tia McGraff
Wed at 7.30pm, £12.50 - £15
The Robin 2 , Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
01902 401211

HIP HOP/R&B

Mobb Deep "The Infamous...
Fri at 6pm, £29.81 - £112.50
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. 0121 622 8250

Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star

Keeping a watch out for Scoundrels

Scam-tastic, it's the Dirty Rotten Scoundrels cast for Birmingham's New Alexandra Theatre — Michael Praed (as Lawrence), Carley Stenson (Christine), Noel Sullivan (Freddy) and Mark Benton (Andre) Photograph by Paul Rider

LIVE the Riviera life in Brum next week when eagerly-awaited comedy musical Dirty Rotten Scoundrels arrives for a fortnight run at the New Alexandra Theatre.

Direct from London's West End, where it ran for a year to rave reviews and packed houses, the hit show is based on the classic 1988 movie starring Michael Caine and Steve Martin as a pair of conmen operating in the South of France.

The chalk and cheese partners end up vying with each other to scam a millionaire heiress.

The cast for the May 5 to 16 run in Birmingham is led by former Robin of Sherwood star Michael Praed as Lawrence with former Hear'Say singer Noel Sullivan as Freddy. Waterloo Road actor Mark Benton plays Andre.

They are joined by Carley Stenson from Hollyoaks as Christine, the object of their desires.

Star role start for Jessie, 22

A RISING star of the stage from Dudley will take on a lead role in the UK tour of Dirty Dancing when it comes to Birmingham Hippodrome.

Drama school graduate Jessie Hart, from Wall Heath, will star as Baby Houseman during the three-week run at the Birmingham theatre, which starts tonight.

The 22-year-old actress recently graduated from the Mountview of Theatre Arts in London and also appeared in ITV drama Arthur and George. She said: "Birmingham Hippodrome was where I saw the first show I can remember. I saw Miss Saigon there when I was about 11 with all my family. It was my favourite ever show and I'll never forget it. It's crazy to think that I will open my run of the tour, playing the leading role, Baby, on that same stage."

Lewis Kirk will star alongside her as Johnny Castle, the role that was famously played by Patrick Swayze in the 1987 film. It tells the story of two fiercely independent young people from different worlds, who fall in love at a holiday resort. It features hit songs, including Hey Baby, Do You Love Me? and (I've Had) The Time Of My Life.

Fans of the cult classic movie will delight in this stage version, particularly the famous set pieces including the line 'Nobody puts Baby in a corner' and the famous lift dance move that gets roars of approval. It has been adapted for the stage by the movie's writer Eleanor Bergstein and the production values are worthy of the West End.

Dirty Dancing will run at the Hippodrome until May 23.

Rockers coming home for concert

BLACK Country rock band Martyr De Mona — who have opened for Black Stone Cherry and the legendary Slash on tour — have announced a new gig in their home region.

Described by Midlands Rocks as 'undoubtedly the Midlands' hottest band at the moment!', Martyr De Mona will be taking to the stage at Wolverhampton's Slade Rooms on December 18.

The Stourbridge band have already supported Black Sabbath, Avenged Sevenfold, and Alter Bridge.

Tickets start at £8.80 (including booking fee) and are available from Midland Box Office on 0870 3207000 or online at the www.wolvescivic.co.uk website.

War and many a music hall piece

JOAN Littlewood's musical Oh What A Lovely War is coming to Birmingham Repertory Theatre. Directed by University of Birmingham graduate, Terry Johnson, the revival is at The Rep from May 5 to 9 as the final venue of the show's UK tour.

The satirical show about the First World War, in which songs of the era are performed against a backdrop conveying the harsh realities of war, will feature Ian Reddington (Eastenders, Coronation Street), Christopher Villiers (Emmerdale) and Wendi Peters, best known as Cilla Battersby in Coronation Street, in the cast. See the website www.birmingham-rep.co.uk

Ricky and co are kings of the castle

WARWICK Castle will be the location for Sounds in the Grounds this summer, a pair of concerts for rock and classical music fans.

The event will kick off on July 10 with a gig by Kaiser Chiefs, featuring singer and The Voice judge Ricky Wilson, with support from rapper Professor Green and rising star singer Ella Eyre. Then on July 11 The Royal Philharmonic Concert Orchestra present a Proms style repertoire for flag-waving crowds. Secial guest will be The Voice 2015 runner-up, Dublin opera singer Lucy O'Byrne.

For more information see www.soundsinthegrounds.com

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Stourbridge Chronicle Thursday, April 30, 2015

Historic Muncaster Castle, still a lived-in family home, is the jewel in the crown

Ravenglass & Eskdale steam railway is popular

Rivers meet sea – coastal hamlet Ravenglass lies on the estuary of three rivers

Stunning countryside will greet you

This country break was fit for royalty and certainly suited me

By Leigh Sanders

ONE of the most naturally beautiful regions in England, the Lake District has long inspired the nation.

From William Wordsworth and the Lake Poets to the death of Joe McIntyre in Coronation Street, the Lakes have inspired popular culture as well as bringing in tourists with its stunning scenery and welcoming retreats.

Foremost in popularity is, of course, Windermere – the largest lake in the country. But dig a little further afield and there are plenty of fantastic finds spread across Cumbria.

Take, for example, the haven of Ravenglass. Home to roughly 200 residents it is the only coastal settlement in the region and sits on the mouths of three rivers – the Esk, Mite and Irt. Dating back to the Second Century it was an important naval base to the Romans and is steeped in history.

From the visible remains of a Roman bathhouse to the stunning Muncaster Castle lying a mile or so inland, there is plenty to keep you occupied while abandoning the rigours of driving for a couple of days.

Haunted

Muncaster is a must for anyone visiting the area. It is home to many ghostly tales and strange happenings which add to its intrigue. You can rent it out privately for any function ranging from university reunions to weddings. One of the main legends surrounds the wandering, dethroned Henry VI after a defeat in the War of the Roses.

After being given sanctuary at Muncaster, on his leaving he gave his drinking bowl to the Pennington family declaring that as long as it stayed intact they would live and thrive in the place.

There is talk of a haunted bedroom, which needs to be seen before trying to make up your mind, while the legend of Tom Fool and his tenure as jester to the Pennington family landed the word 'tomfoolery' into our language and led to the brewing of a rather scrumptious ale in the area.

But topping all the history is the stunning views northwards over the Eskdale Valley towards Scafell Pike – England's highest mountain. Ruskin described it as 'the gateway to paradise', and standing outside the castle's main entrance you can see why. The grounds are extensive, hosting many walks, and there is the World Owl Centre – home to an extremely rare Ethiopian eagle owl. When your feet are all walked out, Ravenglass hosts three great locations to recharge with food and drink.

The Pennington Hotel restaurant, The Inn @ Ravenglass and The Ratty Arms all serve up tantalising fish dishes and a bevy of locally brewed ales.

Other than the impressive Muncaster and the historic Ravenglass & Eskdale Steam Railway that provides transport inland to Dalegarth and Boot, there is no real need to pay entry to an attraction. Thousands of strolls await.

Once you have seen the coast it is worth heading inland to see what else the Lakes have to offer. If the tourist-orientated Windermere isn't to your taste then head north through Kirkstone Pass towards Ullswater – the second largest expanse of water. Kirkstone Pass offers too many Middle Earth-esque views to mention.

If a country break is what you require then look no further.

Shenapur
Indian Cuisine

We are proud to introduce new Head Chef 'Ahad' and our exciting new menu.

*10% reduction against the cost of your meal on production of this advertisement when dining in or collecting your takeaway.

86, Worcester Road, West Hagley. DY9 0NJ
Reservations 01562 884867

*We are sorry this offer is not available on our Sunday Evening fixed price menu.

Serving up new menu – and chef

COMMERCIAL FEATURE

THE Shenapur has been serving up the finest traditional Indian Cuisine in Hagley for more than 19 years and has become one of the most popular destinations in the West Midlands for Indian food lovers.

This smart restaurant on Worcester Road has built an enviable reputation for serving its customers the finest recipes from all corners of India whilst offering many exclusive dishes that reflect the changing food trends in contemporary dining and now things have moved on again with the appointment of new head chef Ahad.

Excited

"We are proud and excited about Ahad's appointment" explains Shenapur's proprietor Ali. "Ahad is a modern contemporary chef with more than 30 years experience and he and his staff have introduced a brand new menu which will retain all the favourites which have made the restaurant so popular whilst introducing a fantastic new range of innovative and creative dishes to tantalize your taste buds"

The new menu offers the varied and delicious taste of Indian food gleaned from traditional homes all over the sub continent, something which has always set the Shenapur apart.

And under the expert guidance of new head chef Ahad and his experienced team of chefs, who use their considerable expertise to further enhance this wonderful Indian cuisine by combining it with the restaurants own unique style of distinctive aromas, flavours and presentation, they will provide a dining experience that is sure to excite the palate and make your meal a memorable one.

Owner Angur Ali, right, with head Chef Abdul Ahad at Shenapur

There is also an extensive range of appetizers and desserts to complement your dining experience.

You can always be confident of the quality of food and Shenapur's impeccable cleanliness record with Bromsgrove District Council rating the restaurant with a 'very good' four-star food hygiene rating.

Ahad is very keen to demonstrate his culinary skills, flexibility and passion for Indian cooking and he and his team are happy to style any dish to suit your personal taste.

So if you are a regular diner at the Shenapur, or are considering visiting for the first time to experience unforgettable food served up in an informal and friendly atmosphere, there has never been a better time to join us with a 10 per cent reduction against the cost of your meal on production of our advertisement.

We hope to see you soon.

CHOICE

Mark Harmon

NCIS
Channel 5, 8.20pm)
The shooting of a petty officer looks like an open-and-shut case when a Russian man is found with a recently fired gun in his car. However, the investigation takes a dramatic turn when it is revealed he is working as a spy for the Department of Homeland Security.
American drama following the work of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service that investigates cases involving the US Navy and Marine Corps. Starring Mark Harmon alongside Michael Weatherly, Pauley Perrette, David McCallum, Cote de Pablo, Sean Murray, Lauren Holly, Armando Molina, VJ Foster, Nolan North, Albie Selznick, Ravil Isyanov, Geoff Pierson

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Paul Hollywood's Bread. (R) **12.00** BBC News; Weather. **12.10** Football Focus. **1.00** Football Focus: Championship Special. **2.15** Live Snooker: The World Championship. The opening semi-final is set to reach a conclusion. **4.30** Final Score. **5.10 Film:** WALL.E. (2008) Pixar animated adventure, with the voice of Ben Burtt.

6.40 BBC News.

6.50 Regional Programme.

6.55 Pointless Celebrities. Alexander Armstrong quizzes a line-up of contestants who work on shows with a wildlife or natural history theme. They are birdwatcher Bill Oddie and historian Tessa Dunlop, Countryfile presenters John Craven and Shauna Lowry, TV gardener Diarmuid Gavin and Coast presenter Miranda Krestovnikoff, and Blue Peter hosts-turned-wildlife presenters Helen Skelton and Radzi Chinyanganya. Richard Osman is the man with the answers.

7.45 Atlantis. Jason's discovery has blackened his heart, leaving him careless and foolhardy – so a concerned Pythagoras sets out in search of someone who can help save his friend.

8.30 The National Lottery: In It to Win It. Dale Winton presents the quiz in which up to five contestants answer questions to scoop a big cash prize. Only those in the winners' row will have a chance of taking home the loot, so they will need to get all the answers right – as well as a little bit of luck on their side. Including the Lotto and Thunderball draws, presented by Jenni Falconer, with guest Brian Conley.

9.20 Casualty. Connie goes on trial for Alfred's murder, Rita suspects a young girl who cut her wrists is being abused and Mac helps a woman cope with her mother, who has dementia.

10.10 BBC News; Weather.

10.30 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents highlights of the latest Premier League clashes, which included Liverpool v Queens Park Rangers and Manchester United v West Bromwich Albion; National Lottery Update.

11.55 The Football League Show.

1.05 Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.10** BBC News.

BBC2

6.15 Film: Gambling House. (1950) **7.35 Film:** The Red Beret. (1953) **9.00** The Nature of Britain. (R) **10.00** Live Snooker: The World Championship. **12.00** Alex Polizzi: Chefs on Trial. (R) **1.00** Michel Roux's Service. (R) **2.00** James Martin's Food Map of Britain. (R) **2.20** Timewatch: Inside the Mind of Adolf Hitler. (R) **3.10** Timewatch: The Making of Adolf Hitler. (R) **4.00** The World's Most Photographed. (R) **4.30** Live Snooker: The World Championship. The opening semi-final is set to reach a conclusion. **5.30** Iceland – Land of Ice and Fire: Natural World. (R)

6.30 Dad's Army. First-ever episode of the classic comedy, in which bank manager George Mainwaring assembles a motley crew of volunteers to protect Britain from Nazi invasion. Arthur Lowe stars. (R)

7.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. Hazel Irvine presents coverage of the fourth and final session of the second semi-final at the Crucible Theatre in Sheffield, where the first player to reach 17 frames will progress to the final. This match produced a thriller last year between Mark Selby and Neil Robertson, with both men aiming to reach their second final, and it was Selby who prevailed 17-15 in an encounter that lasted more than 12 hours. The commentary team includes Dennis Taylor, Willie Thorne and Stephen Hendry. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

9.30 Film: Quartet. (2012) Three former opera singers prepare for their annual concert to mark Verdi's birthday and raise funds for their retirement home. However, this year, a famous diva has joined the group, and her history with the others threatens the performance. Comedy drama, directed by Dustin Hoffman and starring Maggie Smith, Billy Connolly, Tom Courtenay, Pauline Collins and Michael Gambon.

11.00 QI XL. Extended edition. Noel Fielding, Ross Noble and Colin Lane join regular panellist Alan Davies as host Stephen Fry asks a range of unusual questions on the topic of kit and kaboodle. (R)

11.50 Film: Perfume: The Story of a Murderer. (2006) Period thriller, with Ben Whishaw, Dustin Hoffman and Alan Rickman.

2.00 Film: Honeymooner. (2010)

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knocker Street. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.20** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.00** Canimals. (R) **7.15** Sooty. (R) **7.30** Super 4. (R) **7.45** Nerds & Monsters. (R) **8.00** Thunderbirds Are Go. **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **10.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **11.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.30** ITV News; Weather. **12.40** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **1.45** Doc Martin. (R) **2.50** Who's Doing the Dishes? (R) **3.50 Film:** The Great Outdoors. (1988) Comedy, starring John Candy and Dan Aykroyd. **5.30** Regional Programme ; Weather.**5.45** ITV News; Weather.

6.00 New You've Been Framed! Unleashed! Painful pranks, below-the-belt mishaps and stunts gone wrong are on the menu in this special edition, as Harry Hill reveals some of the wildest accidents caught on camera by viewers.

7.00 Ninja Warrior UK. Contenders from across the nation test their strength, speed and courage in the fourth heat of the obstacle-course challenge, all hoping to progress to the semi-finals.

8.00 Britain's Got Talent. Ant and Dec host the fourth audition show, as the judges – Simon Cowell, David Walliams, Amanda Holden and Alesha Dixon – give their verdicts on more of the nation's best, and worst, performers. Queuing up to take the stage, acts of all ages and abilities are determined to prove they're worthy of the £250,000 cash prize and a slot at this year's Royal Variety Performance, but while some of them will be deserving, the dream will be over for those whose auditions are cut short by the panel.

9.15 Play to the Whistle. Team captains Bradley Walsh and Frank Lampard are joined by guests including Dermot O'Leary and Romesh Ranganathan. Holly Willoughby hosts the sports-based comedy panel show.

10.00 ITV News; Weather.

10.15 Film: Cliffhanger. (1993) A retired mountain rescue expert is drawn into a battle of wits with a criminal searching for a lost fortune in the Rockies. Thriller, starring Sylvester Stallone and John Lithgow.

12.15 Jackpot247. **3.00** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **3.40** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.40** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.05** Challenge Dubai. **8.00** The Morning Line. **9.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **9.30** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **10.30** Frasier. (R) **11.00** Frasier. (R) **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.00** The Big Bang Theory. (R) **12.30** Marvel's Agents of SHIELD. (R) **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. Including the 2,000 Guineas at 3.45. **4.15** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.50** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.20** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.50** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.20 Come Dine with Me. Estate agent Wendy Tinnion hosts the final night in Cumbria, and her guests are in for a shock when they discover something unexpected. (R)

6.45 Channel 4 News.

7.15 For the Love of Cars. Philip Glenister gets to fulfil an ultimate high-octane dream and drive some of Britain's most iconic police cars. Alongside him is former cop Ant Anstead, who demonstrates how to master these versatile vehicles. The duo get to work restoring a Rover SD1 discovered on a driveway in Essex, and push a 1959 Daimler Dart to the limit re-enacting the notorious "Liver Run", accompanied by out-riders on the M11, and through the busy streets of London. (R)

8.15 Film: Men in Black II. (2002) Agent J investigates the unauthorised landing of a spacecraft and discovers a malevolent alien disguised as a lingerie model is on the verge of destroying humanity. His only hope of stopping her diabolical plot is to restore the memory of his retired partner K – but his former mentor takes more than a little convincing. Sci-fi comedy sequel, directed by Barry Sonnenfeld, starring Will Smith, Tommy Lee Jones, Rosario Dawson, Lara Flynn Boyle, Johnny Knoxville, Rip Torn and Tony Shalhoub.

10.00 Film: Dredd. (2012) Premiere. Sci-fi thriller, starring Karl Urban and Lena Headey.

11.55 Stephen Merchant: Hello Ladies. The Office co-creator's critically acclaimed 2011 stand-up comedy show, based on his experiences of the rocky road to finding love. (R)

12.55 The Last Leg. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.35** The Dog Rescuers. (R) **11.05** Cowboy Builders & Bodge Jobs. (R) **12.00** Cowboy Builders & Bodge Jobs. (R) **1.00** Cowboy Builders & Bodge Jobs. (R) **2.00 Film:** Columbo Undercover. (1994) Detective drama, starring Peter Falk. **3.55 Film:** Secret Liaison. (2013) Thriller, starring Meredith Monroe. **5.35** The Nightmare Neighbour Next Door. (R)

6.30 Britain's Horror Homes. A man who turned his house into a fortress after being burgled 10 times, and an engineer who devised a plan to reduce the risk of his property being flooded again. (R)

7.20 Can't Pay? We'll Take It Away. Paul Bohill and Ben Pinner are called in to evict squatters from a residential property, and it soon becomes clear that things are not quite what they seem. Brian O'Shaughnessy and Graham Aldred arrive at a restaurant in north London to collect unpaid rent, but the situation becomes heated and the debtors make accusations to the police that could ruin the High Court enforcement agents' careers. (R)

8.15 5 News Weekend.

8.20 NCIS. A Russian man becomes the prime suspect when a petty officer is found dead, but receives protection from the Department of Homeland Security. (R)

9.10 NCIS. The team investigates the murder of a lance corporal, whose body has been found in an empty house, and discovers he had a number of spurned lovers and a $2million inheritance. Ducky and Gibbs interview one of the dead marine's partners, but disagree over whether she is telling the truth. David McCallum and Mark Harmon star. (R)

10.10 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation. A caped vigilante is killed while trying to protect a homeless man from a brutal gang, and footage of vandals attacking a shop on the same night offers a potential line of inquiry.

11.05 Law & Order: Special Victims Unit. A teenage girl is hurt in a fall, but doctors discover she is also suffering from injuries sustained in an attack, setting Benson and Stabler off on a search for her assailant. (R)

12.05 SuperCasino.

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Great Movie Mistakes – Not in 3D **7.10** Top Gear **8.10** Don't Tell the Bride **9.10** Live at the Apollo **10.10** Happy Valley **11.10** Family Guy **1.25** Killer Magic **1.55** Live at the Apollo **2.55** Tatau **3.35** Vodka Diaries **4.00** Close

BBC Four
7.00 Survivors: Nature's Indestructible Creatures **8.00** Wild China **9.00** Inspector Montalbano **10.45** Len Goodman's Big Band Bonanza **11.45** Top of the Pops: 1980 **12.15** Chas & Dave: Last Orders **1.15** Survivors: Nature's Indestructible Creatures **2.15** Wild China **3.15** Close

ITV2
11.05 Britain's Got Talent **12.20** Britain's Got More Talent **1.25** A Night in with Olly Murs **2.30** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.45 Film:** Homeward Bound: The Incredible Journey (1993) **4.30** Mr Bean **5.40 Film:** Johnny English (2003) **7.30 Film:** Mr Bean's Holiday (2007) **9.15** Britain's Got More Talent **10.15** Celebrity Juice: Keith's Birthday Party **11.00** Britain's Got Talent **12.20** Britain's Got More Talent **1.20** Hell's Kitchen **2.05** Crazy Beaches

ITV3
11.15 Agatha Christie's Marple **1.20 Film:** Carry On Screaming (1966) **3.15** Wycliffe **4.25 Film:** Columbo: Lady in Waiting (1971) **6.00** Lewis **8.00** Doc Martin **9.00** Foyle's War **11.05** Inspector Morse **1.25** Wire in the Blood

ITV4
11.25 Pawn Stars **2.00** Cycling: Tour de Yorkshire Live. Coverage of the second stage of the inaugural race. **4.00** Storage Wars **5.00** Storage Wars: Texas **6.00** Shed and Buried **7.00** Cycling: Tour de Yorkshire **8.00 Film:** From Russia with Love (1963) **10.25 Film:** Manny (2014)

E4
11.00 The Goldbergs **12.00** How I Met Your Mother **1.00** The Big Bang Theory: It All Started with a Big Bang **1.30** The Big Bang Theory **4.00** Made in Chelsea **5.00** Jane the Virgin **6.00** The Big Bang Theory **9.00 Film:** Coming to America (1988) **11.20** The IT Crowd **12.25** The Inbetweeners **1.25** Rude Tube **2.25** Bodyshockers: Nips, Tucks and Tattoos **3.20** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **3.45** How I Met Your Mother **4.30** Make It or Break It

Film4
11.00 Bugsy Malone (1976) **1.00** Mr Popper's Penguins (2011) **2.55** The Wackiest Ship in the Army (1960) **5.00** Fool's Gold (2008) **7.15** Airplane! (1980) **9.00** Season of the Witch (2011) **10.45** The Pact (2012) **12.30** Scary Movie 2 (2001) **2.10** Shutter (2008) **3.55** Close

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CHOICE

Hazel Irvine

Live Snooker: The World Championship (BBC2, 7.00pm)
Hazel Irvine presents all the latest action from the second session of the final at Sheffield's Crucible Theatre, where a further nine frames are scheduled to take place. The second session of last year's final took on a similar pattern to the first, with Ronnie O'Sullivan winning five frames to move into a 10-7 lead heading into the final day against Mark Selby. The commentary team features five former world champions in Dennis Taylor, Steve Davis, John Parrott, Ken Doherty and Stephen Hendry. The team will certainly be able to relate to the pressure felt by the players here today. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.30** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.00** The Big Questions. **11.00** Sunday Politics. **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. With Mark Chapman and the Match of the Day team. **1.00** BBC News; Weather. **1.15** Bargain Hunt. **2.15** Escape to the Country. (R) **3.15** Pets – Wild at Heart. (R) **4.15** Points of View. **4.30** Songs of Praise – School Choir of the Year. **5.15** Pointless Celebrities. (R)

6.05 BBC News.

6.20 Regional Programme.

6.30 Countryfile. The team celebrates spring, as Matt Baker meets orphan lambs in north Wales, Ellie Harrison listens to seasonal sounds and Anita Rani visits an unusual barbecue. Including Weather for the Week Ahead.

7.30 Antiques Roadshow. A visit to Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum in Glasgow, where items include insect jewellery, a silver cup from the time of Oliver Cromwell and a claymore sword from the Boer War.

8.30 The C Word. Sheridan Smith stars in this drama based on the blog and book by Lisa Lynch, an account of her life after being diagnosed with breast cancer. Twenty-eight-year-old Lisa's life is going exactly the way she wanted – she has recently married the man of her dreams and her career is on the up. Then out of the blue, she receives a shocking a diagnosis from the doctor that threatens to stop her in her tracks. Right from the start, however, Lisa is determined not to let cancer change her, and begins to write about her experience – unaware of the effect it will have on her life and that of others. Paul Nicholls, Haydn Gwynne and Michael Maloney co-star.

10.00 BBC News.

10.20 Regional Programme.

10.30 Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman reviews the latest Premier League action, featuring Tottenham Hotspur v Manchester City at White Hart Lane and Chelsea v Crystal Palace.

11.35 The Football League Show. Manish Bhasin presents highlights and all the goals from the final weekend of the regular season in League One, including Colchester United v Preston North End.

12.15 Weather for the Week Ahead.

BBC2

6.00 Life in a Cottage Garden with Carol Klein. (R) **6.30** Great British Garden Revival. (R) **7.30** Countryfile. (R) **8.30** The Beechgrove Garden. **9.00** The Football League Show. (R) **10.10** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **11.40** Back in Time for Dinner. (R) **12.40** Alex Polizzi: Chefs on Trial. (R) **1.40** James Martin's Food Map of Britain. (R) **2.00** Live Snooker: The World Championship. The opening session of the final at the Crucible Theatre.

6.00 Flog It! David Fletcher and Anita Manning search for collectibles at Alnwick Castle in Northumberland, valuing items including Murano glass figurines and a Newcastle shipyard visitors' book. Paul Martin also explores the building's State Rooms, learning about the Percy family's tastes. (R)

7.00 Live Snooker: The World Championship. Hazel Irvine presents all the action from the second session of the final at Sheffield's Crucible Theatre, where a further nine frames are scheduled to take place. The second session of last year's final took on a similar pattern to the first, with Ronnie O'Sullivan winning five frames to move into a 10-7 lead heading into the final day against Mark Selby. The commentary team features five former world champions in Dennis Taylor, Steve Davis, John Parrott, Ken Doherty and Stephen Hendry. Subsequent programmes subject to change.

11.00 W1A. Anna puts herself forward for the newly advertised role of Head of Better, and rumours circulate that Newsnight anchor Evan Davis is to be a contestant on Strictly Come Dancing. (R)

11.30 Film: The Accidental Husband. (2008) A radio host planning her wedding discovers she is already legally married to a man she has never even met. Romantic comedy, with Uma Thurman, Colin Firth and Jeffrey Dean Morgan.

12.50 Sign Zone: Countryfile. From the Peak District, with items on making the countryside accessible to the disabled, the National Search and Rescue Dog Association, the Pennine Way and preventing hayfever. (R) **1.50** Holby City. Annabelle and Zosia disagree with Guy over a special case, a new pair of shoes gets Serena into an embarrassing situation with a new admirer and Mo arranges to meet her real father. (R)

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knocker Street. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.20** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.45** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.00** Canimals. (R) **7.15** Sooty. (R) **7.30** Fort Boyard Ultimate Challenge. (R) **8.25** ITV News. **8.30** Weekend. **9.25** Judge Rinder. (R) **10.25** Judge Rinder. (R) **11.25** Judge Rinder. (R) **12.25** ITV News; Weather. **12.35** Tipping Point. (R) **1.30** Britain's Got Talent. (R) **2.45 Film:** Dragnet. (1987) Spoof crime drama, starring Dan Aykroyd and Tom Hanks. **4.50** All Star Family Fortunes. (R) **5.50** Ninja Warrior UK. (R)

6.50 Regional Programme; Weather.

7.00 ITV News; Weather.

7.15 Celebrity Squares. Julian Clary, Katherine Ryan, Paul Hollywood, Ugo Monye, Hayley Tamaddon, Doon Mackichan and Paul Chowdhry join regulars Tim Vine and Joe Wilkinson in the grid. Warwick Davis hosts.

8.00 Sunday Night at the Palladium. New series. Bradley Walsh hosts the variety show this week, with performances by Olly Murs, Madness, Alfie Boe, Jo Brand, slapstick duo Men in Coats and animal act Olate Dogs.

9.00 Home Fires. New series. Drama about the lives of a group of Women's Institute members in a rural Cheshire community during the Second World War. In the face of an impending conflict with Germany, the Great Paxford WI faces a difficult decision. When president Joyce Cameron resigns, taking most of the membership with her, Frances Barden and her supporters must recruit new helpers from unexpected places. Starring Samantha Bond, Francesca Annis, Ruth Gemmell, Claire Rushbrook and Frances Grey, with Ed Stoppard and Mark Bazeley.

10.05 ITV News; Weather.

10.20 Perspectives: Rick Wakeman on Vivaldi's Four Seasons. The prog rock keyboardist explores the story of the famous classical piece, finding out why it disappeared into obscurity for more than 200 years after the composer's death.

11.20 Churchill: 100 Days That Saved Britain. (R)

12.15 The Store. **2.30** Motorsport UK. **3.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R)

CHANNEL 4

6.20 How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.45** How I Met Your Mother. (R) **7.10** Caterham Motorsports. **7.35** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.00** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **8.30** Frasier. (R) **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** George Clarke's Amazing Spaces. (R) **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. Including the 1,000 Guineas at 3.40. **4.00** A Place in the Sun: Home or Away. **5.00** Channel 4 News. **5.20 Film:** The Karate Kid. (2010) Martial arts drama, with Jaden Smith and Jackie Chan.

8.00 For the Love of Cars. Philip Glenister and Ant Anstead turn their attention to the 1980s "hot hatch" – city run-a-rounds, such as the Volkswagen Golf GTi and Peugeot 205, which became must-haves for boy racers. They help transform a Golf GTi Mk 1 into a rally car and meet hatchback fanatics to discover why people are so passionate about these vehicles and how, for some, they defined an era.

9.00 8 Out of 10 Cats Does Countdown. New series. Jimmy Carr returns with this comedy version of the famous afternoon game show, with Sean Lock, Bill Bailey and Paul Foot going up against guest captain Sarah Millican with Rob Delaney and Romesh Ranganathan. Nina Conti joins Countdown's resident lexicographer Susie Dent in Dictionary Corner, while Rachel Riley looks after the letters and numbers at the board.

10.05 An Immigrant's Guide to Britain. Comedian and first-generation immigrant Henning Wehn leads an irreverent guide to life in Britain from the perspective of some of its most notoriously polarising inhabitants.

10.35 Gogglebox. Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. Narrated by Caroline Aherne. (R)

11.40 Bill Bailey Qualmpeddler. Stand-up comedy from London's Hammersmith Apollo, accompanied by light-hearted musical numbers, from religious dubstep and German folk-metal to a reggae version of Downton Abbey. (R)

12.40 Film: 12 Rounds. (2009) **2.35** Alan Carr: Chatty Man. (R) **3.30 Film:** Ashad Ka Ek Din. (1971) **5.35** The Common Denominator. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **6.20** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.35** Pip Ahoy! (R) **6.45** The Mr Men Show. (R) **6.55** Mio Mao. (R) **7.00** Chloe's Closet. (R) **7.15** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.20** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.35** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.50** Little Princess. (R) **8.00** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **8.15** Zack and Quack. **8.30** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **8.45** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.00** LazyTown. (R) **9.30** Dora and Friends. (R) **10.00** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. (R) **10.35** Cowboy Builders & Bodge Jobs. (R) **11.25** Cowboy Builders & Bodge Jobs. (R) **12.20** Ultimate Police Interceptors. (R) **1.20 Film:** Blue Streak. (1999) Comedy, starring Martin Lawrence. **3.05 Film:** Zathura: A Space Adventure. (2005) Family sci-fi adventure, starring Josh Hutcherson and Jonah Bobo. **5.00 Film:** Holes. (2003) Family adventure, starring Shia LaBeouf.

7.05 5 News Weekend.

7.10 Film: Legally Blonde. (2001) A seemingly dizzy teenager is heartbroken when her boyfriend dumps her because he thinks she is not intelligent enough to help his political career. To prove him wrong she enrols at Harvard, but finds herself out of her depth as other students do their best to humiliate her. Comedy, starring Reese Witherspoon, Luke Wilson, Selma Blair, Matthew Davis and Victor Garber. Edited for language.

9.00 Film: Resident Evil: Afterlife. (2010) Premiere. Zombie-fighting heroine Alice roams the post-apocalyptic wasteland searching for human survivors. An encounter with an old friend leads her to a rumoured sanctuary in Los Angeles, but she discovers she has walked into a deadly trap and must once again battle the hordes of the living dead. Action horror sequel, starring Milla Jovovich, Ali Larter and Wentworth Miller.

11.05 Film: Gamer. (2009) A convict is forced to take part in a violent real-life video game using mind-control technology, but plans to escape. Sci-fi thriller, starring Gerard Butler and Michael C Hall.

12.45 Jackass. (R) **1.15** SuperCasino. Live interactive gaming. **3.10** GPs: Behind Closed Doors. Dr Opong sees a patient who is terrified he might have cancer. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R) **5.15** Angels of Jarm. (R) **5.40** Roary the Racing Car. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Live Diving. Coverage of the World Series event in London. **8.05 Film:** Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull (2008) **10.00** Tatau **10.45** Family Guy **11.30** American Dad! **11.55** Family Guy **12.15** Tatau **1.00** Teen Model Factory: Reggie Yates' Extreme Russia **1.55** Killer Magic **2.25** Flat TV **2.45** Tatau **3.30** Killer Magic **4.00** Close

BBC Four
7.00 10 Things You Didn't Know About Tsunamis **8.00** National Gallery: A Film by Frederick Wiseman **10.55** Imagine – Rod Stewart: Can't Stop Me Now **12.20** Rod Stewart at the BBC **1.20** BBC Young Dancer 2015 **2.20** 10 Things You Didn't Know About Tsunamis **3.20** Close

ITV2
12.00 Take Me Out **1.10** Scorpion **2.05 Film:** Scooby-Doo (2002) **3.55 Film:** Homeward Bound II: Lost in San Francisco (1996) **5.40** Britain's Got Talent **7.00** Britain's Got More Talent **8.00** You've Been Framed! Yearbook **9.00 Film:** Knocked Up (2007) **11.35 Film:** The Bourne Ultimatum (2007) **1.45** Mom **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV3
11.55 Wycliffe **1.00 Film:** Columbo: Lady in Waiting (1971) **2.40** Lewis **4.45** A Touch of Frost **6.50** Inspector Morse **9.00** The Best of the Royal Variety **10.00** Wycliffe **11.10 Film:** The Color Purple (1985) **2.05** Secret Smile **3.20** ITV3 Nightscreen **3.40** Emmerdale

ITV4
11.50 Pawn Stars **12.45 Film:** Tobruk (1967) **3.00** Cycling: Tour de Yorkshire Live. Coverage of the third and final stage of the inaugural race. **5.00** Storage Wars **6.00** Storage Wars: Texas **7.00** Cycling: Tour de Yorkshire **8.00 Film:** Police Academy 3: Back in Training (1986) **9.45 Film:** National Lampoon's Vacation (1983) **11.50 Film:** Buried (2010) **1.40** I Want That Car **2.30** Whisker Wars **2.55** ITV4 Nightscreen **3.00** Teleshopping

E4
12.00 Made in Chelsea **1.00** Revenge **2.00** Jane the Virgin **3.00** The Goldbergs **4.00** The Big Bang Theory **8.00 Film:** St Trinian's (2007) **10.00** The IT Crowd **11.00** The Inbetweeners **12.10** Rude Tube **1.15** Virtually Famous

Film4
11.00 Carry On Up the Khyber (1968) **1.00** Mighty Joe Young (1998) **3.15** Judy Moody and the Not Bummer Summer (2011) **5.00** Jumper (2008) **6.45** Multiplicity (1996) **9.00** Men in Black 3 (2012) **11.10** Monsters (2010) **1.00** 20,000 Days on Earth (2014) **3.10** Close

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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
Lord of War, Channel 5, 10.55pm
A Ukrainian immigrant in New York sells guns to local mobsters, and when he gains access to a vast supply of Soviet weaponry at the end of the Cold War he expands his operation overseas – but makes the mistake of doing business with an African warlord. Thriller, starring Nicolas Cage, Ethan Hawke, Jared Leto, Bridget Moynahan, Eamonn Walker and Ian Holm. (2005)

TUESDAY
=Far and Away, Channel 5, 11pm
Penniless Irish farmer Joseph seeks revenge on the cruel landowner who drove him from his home. However, the landlord's daughter, desperate to escape her family, persuades him to join her in seeking their fortune in America. Romantic drama set in the 1890s, starring Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman. (1992)

Dante's Peak, Friday, ITV, 10.50pm

WEDNESDAY
A Few Best Men, BBC1, 11.20pm
An Englishman falls in love with a woman he meets on holiday in Australia, and asks her to marry him. However, he then makes the mistake of bringing three friends over to be his best men. Comedy, starring Xavier Samuel, Laura Brent and Kris Marshall. (2011)

THURSDAY
Kinky Boots, BBC2, 10.30pm
A man inherits a struggling shoe factory, but salvation arrives when a Soho cabaret singer comes up with a plan for the business to manufacture specialist footwear for drag artists. However, the stunned workforce has to be won over, and the new designs prove their worth at a high-profile fashion show. Comedy drama, starring Chiwetel Ejiofor. (2005)

FRIDAY
Dante's Peak, ITV, 10.50pm
A vulcanologist's suspicions that a long-dormant volcano is about to erupt turn out to be true, prompting him to race against time to save the community standing in its way – and clash with local government officials. Disaster movie, starring Pierce Brosnan and Linda Hamilton. (1997)

Shocking case leaves a race against time

Do we really need another new police drama? Well, it if it's written by Paul Abbott, the man who gave us Shameless and State of the Play, then yes, we probably do.

He certainly thinks that his new series, No Offence, is filling a gap in the TV market.

The writer explains: "No Offence came after searching for a concept that would match a Shameless landscape, which is enormous. I love cop shows, I love comedies, and nobody has found a blended set of ingredients that make that work and feel like the cop series I wanted to make."

Before fans of E4's import Brooklyn Nine-Nine start raising objections, Abbott makes it clear that his series can't really be called a sitcom.

"No Offence is proudly a procedural drama, but it's not what I started writing. I thought we were getting away with writing a comedy in my head, but it was just too big and eventually it got squeezed all the way back down to near real life but not real life – it's heightened by two millimetres – and I think it is those two millimetres that define the personality of No Offence.

"You can't call it a comedy, as it's as dark as can be… and it gets darker and darker."

He adds: "No Offence is trying to fit a square peg in a round hole and we've done it beautifully, with a set of ingredients that don't look like they should belong together, but they do."

As it's no ordinary police show, it makes sense that the team are no ordinary coppers. Led by the very capable, but slightly unhinged DI Vivienne Deering (Joanna Scanlan), and her right-hand women DC Dinah Kowalska (Elaine Cassidy) and DS Joy Freers (Alexandra Roach), they work some very mean streets, which would leave lesser officers considering a change of career, but they largely take in their stride.

Abbott says: "I love watching people being good at their job. I remember I used to watch Casualty when all they did was complain about the agency nurses and I'd shout 'go get another job.' I don't want to watch people moaning about their occupation on TV – it's like being haunted by your eight-hour shift isn't it?"

However, in this first episode, it looks like even this apparently unshockable team – which also includes Will Mellor as DC Spike Tanner and Colin Salmon as Det Supt Darren Maclaren – are about to be confronted with one of their most difficult case as Kowalska notices a pattern connecting the deaths of two young women. It seems the team could be dealing with a serial killer – and a third girl has gone missing…

Again, it may not sound original, but that's not really the point.

Abbott says: "I don't write for shock value. I think all crimes have been seen on television before, whether on the News At Ten or in a drama. But No Offence isn't about whether you've seen them before, it's about the attitude towards them. We've done it with such dignity and humanity."

Will Mellor stars in No Offence, Tuesday, Channel 4, 9pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
How the Other Half Eat
Channel 4, 7.30pm
Food shopping these days isn't simply a case of nipping down to the supermarket and picking up whatever takes your fancy. Instead, there's a startling array of products on offer, from no frills items that may lack a little finesse, to the most expensive, top-of-the-range produce whose packaging is almost a work of art in itself. And then there's a heap of stuff in between. This new series follows two families who live close to each other, but whose shopping and eating habits are miles apart. They change places for four days, during which they'll sample the food usually eaten by each other's families. Once the experiment is over, we'll discover whether they go back to their old ways, or change their approach for good.

VE Day: Remembering Victory
BBC1, 8.30pm
On Friday May 8, it will be 70 years since Winston Churchill announced the Second World War in Europe was over, prompting Britain to throw the biggest street party the country has ever seen. David Attenborough, Bruce Forsyth, Miriam Margolyes and June Whitfield are just a few of the well-known figures sharing their memories of the end of the conflict. Narrated by Julie Walters, with contributions from others including Johnny Ball, Honor Blackman, Jilly Cooper, John Craven, Cleo Laine, Kenny Lynch, Michael Parkinson, Leslie Phillips, Anne Reid, Esther Rantzen, Patrick Stewart and Una Stubbs. VE Day: Live from the Cenotaph is on Friday on BBC One at 2.45pm.

TUESDAY
24 Hours in the Past
BBC1, 9pm
Living reality documentary in which six celebrities experience the working lives of the poor in Victorian times. There's no rest for the unlucky volunteers after the filth of the dustyard as they are sent to work at a recreated coaching inn – the 19th-century equivalent of the motorway service station. Alistair McGowan, Ann Widdecombe, Zoe Lucker, Colin Jackson, Tyger Drew-Honey and Miquita Oliver find themselves constantly against the clock as there are horses to be groomed, coaches to be cleaned, guests to be fed, sheets to be laundered and chamber pots to be emptied. Will they all have the stamina to survive the long hours and relentless grind - especially with two further days to go?

24 Hours in the Past, Tuesday, BBC1, 9pm

WEDNESDAY
Inspector George Gently
BBC1, 8pm
All good things must come to an end, but that idea won't make it any easier for Gently to deal with losing Bacchus. His right-hand man has finally been promoted, which means he will need a new sergeant. But for now, Gently's attention is taken by an investigation into the discovery of a female GP's corpse on the moors. She suffered from mood swings and motor neurone disease, which makes the detective's colleagues think she committed suicide, but Gently is convinced she was murdered – and her estranged husband becomes the prime suspect. Feisty WPC Rachel Coles grew up in the area covered by the GP's practice, and helps with the inquiry – surely she would make the ideal replacement for Bacchus?

THURSDAY
Shark
BBC1, 8.55pm
New series. Wildlife documentary venturing below the waves to examine the ocean predators' behaviour. The first film reveals their many different hunting methods, from blacktip sharks gathering in huge packs and herding fish into baitballs, to tasselled wobbegongs, which ambush their prey. Other highlights include Greenland sharks, which live under the arctic ice, whitetip reef sharks – arguably the masters of night-time hunting – and the great white, shown stalking fur seals off the coast of South Africa.

FRIDAY
Secrets of Great British Castles
Channel 5, 8pm
Dan Jones explores the history of Carrickfergus Castle in Co Antrim, one of the most ancient castles in Northern Ireland and a stronghold key to understanding the tempestuous relationship between Britain and Ireland. Dan travels to Rathlin island, where he reveals how hundreds of women and children were massacred in the name of Elizabeth I, and visits the tomb of former governor Arthur Chichester, who began a new colonisation strategy using scorched earth tactics and laid waste to much of the land surrounding the town.

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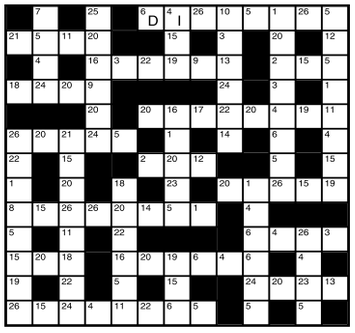
BRAIN GYM No.317

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



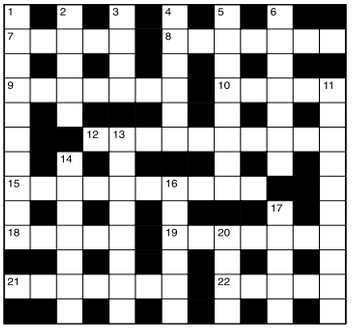
1	14
2	15
3	16
4 I	17
5	18
6 D	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
J	B	Q	I	R	K	N	F	G	S	U	P	E
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
T	M	Y	H	D	O	X	C	W	L	A	V	Z

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.



Cryptic Clues:

Across

7. The way the tour is diverted to the East (5)
8. Becomes snarled up at corner in back-street (7)
9. An insult to a seaside promenade, we hear (7)
10. The French travel south to Nigerian port (5)
12. You could find these right in the main shopping centre (4,6)
15. Right-handed key (6,4)
18. This coin was a sovereign (5)
19 & 13Dn. This will deceive the pupils (7,8)
21. Individual after different name for a flower (7)
22. Get to the bottom and connect the pipe-line (5)

Down

1. Normal, neat decorative arrangement (10)
2. They went round the necks of thugs, we hear (5)
3. Famous fiddler in Stainer oratorio (4)
4. What the needle produces is an acute pain (6)
5. Take out of gear (8)
6. Did some signalling, but became weary (7)
11. Complete black suit needed by one who goes round the course (3,2,5)
13. See 19 Across
14. Declines to put rubbish on the top of the scrap-heap (7)
16. Mob round the East whooped in triumph (6)
17. Show disdain for one who reconnoitres (5)
20. Betty Perkins to do some secretarial work inside (4)

Quick Clues:

Across

7. Precept (5)
8. Flood (7)
9. A month (7)
10. Sugary (5)
12. Affirm (10)
15. Emphasise (10)
18. Lock (5)
19. Relations (7)
21. Dirty (7)
22. Goodbye (5)

Down

1. Book-keeper (10)
2. Join (5)
3. Door handle (4)
4. Famish (6)
5. Expectation (8)
6. Indefinite (7)
11. Huge (10)
13. Ominous (8)
14. Shriek (7)
16. Harsh (6)
17. Coach (5)
20. Tidy (4)

Sudoku

7	9			5		2		
	3			9			4	5
		8	1					3
6			8		5	9		
5		1					3	8
		9	4					6
					7	8		
8	2			3			7	
		7		8			1	4

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

4	9	8	2	3	5	1	7	6
7	6	1	9	8	4	5	3	2
5	2	3	6	1	7	9	8	4
6	4	7	5	2	3	8	1	9
9	8	2	4	7	1	3	6	5
3	1	5	8	9	6	4	2	7
2	5	9	3	6	8	7	4	1
8	7	4	1	5	2	6	9	3
1	3	6	7	4	9	2	5	8

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 1 Restraint; 8 Air; 9 Incantation; 11 Artiste; 12 Posts; 13 Canvas; 15 Prefer; 17 Avast; 18 Celsius; 20 Tuition fees; 22 Ewe; 23 Elephants. Down: 2 Eon; 3 Rings; 4 Images; 5 Tripper; 6 Sands of time; 7 Treasures; 10 Cotoneaster; 11 Archangel; 14 Astride; 16 Scribe; 19 Lunch; 21 Eat. QUICK - Across: 1 Prostrate; 8 Let; 9 Storm-signal; 11 Builder; 12 Baste; 13 Idiocy; 15 Repose; 17 Knave; 18 Patriot; 20 Intercepted; 22 Set; 23 Respected. Down: 2 Rat; 3 Timid; 4 Aviary; 5 Ennoble; 6 Illusionist; 7 Statement; 10 Originality; 11 Briskness; 14 Creator; 16 Sports; 19 Theme; 21 Ere.

Thinking space

Quiz

1. Who is credited with discovering penicillin in 1928?
2. In which country are the Queen's bodyguards the Royal Company of Archers?
3. What was IRA man Dominic McGlinchey's nickname?
4. Who wrote Strangers on a Train?
5. Which bird has honey and rough-legged varieties?
6. Which country was formerly known as the Gold Coast?
7. Which skier is known as La Bomba?
8. Who wrote Our Man in Havana?
9. Which river divides Kentish Men from Men of Kent?
10. Which composer's Adagietto from his 5th Symphony was used in the film Death In Venice?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 Henry VIII; 2 James Herriot; 3 Essex; 4 Rene Descartes; 5 Grandsons; 6 Wild pansy; 7 Heroin; 8 Daniel Radcliffe; 9 Robinson Crusoe; 10 Inter Milan.

Niner: UNLOCATED

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

578 gives a nocturnal mammal,
98678 gives a kind of weasel,
31249 gives insects.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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Fay's farewell to The Full English

Folk 'super group' The Full English is on its farewell tour. DANNY FARRAGHER talks to creator Fay Hield

Fay Hield, front right, and The Full English will play Town Hall, Birmingham

FOLK musician and academic Fay Hield is a woman who gets things done.

So when the English Folk Dance & Song Society(EFDSS) set up an online, searchable archive of nearly 60,000 items of social and musical history it turned to her to promote it.

Based in Sheffield, Hield, who has a doctorate in folk music, or to be precise ethnomusicology, had supported the project from the start and so EFDSS handed her the task of putting together a musical advert for the archive which became the award-winning The Full English music group.

"They(EFDSS) would have happily had me turn up with two musicians and sing some stuff but that's not what I wanted to do. "

So where did she start, did she turn to people she knew would be up for it, or did she throw it out there and see who showed interest?

"Oh God no, I couldn't just throw it out, I knew then I would be inundated and I would have to turn people down. No, I decided who I wanted in it and then approached them individually."

With her shopping list fixed in her mind there was then the hefty process of deciding which songs to use.

"The archive has 58,000 scans so I needed some kind of divvying up mechanism so I looked at who the collectors were.

"Martin Simpson was very keen to look at Lincolnshire collector Percy Grainger. Nancy Kerr was very keen to look at the women collectors.

"I wanted some broadsides as well as some ballads and thought Seth Lakeman would be great, so he took Frank Kidson. Also, I wanted tunes as well as songs so Sam Sweeney and Rob Harbron did some tune development, Ben came up with his own songs, and I kind of scooped up the rest really.

Nightmare

"I sent Seth a dozen broadsides, Martin some recordings and Nancy some stuff as well which I thought would be helpful, but nobody really used anything I sent," she says with a wry laugh.

With all the musicians pursuing their own careers was it a nightmare to get everyone together at the right time and place?

"It was quite difficult finding dates that were suitable for everyone. We had to do it intensively really, but the good side about everyone being so professional is that everyone is so professional, so if they say they are available for those dates, they turn up and work very hard."

And was there a point where she listened and thought Wow! This is going to work?

"Yes, the first rehearsal. I had four or five songs I was leading on and they were quite groupish and I split the vocals with Nancy."

Was the FE always going to be a short-term project?

"It was, and it was going to be much shorter than it has been. We have always had to extend it a little bit because of its success."

Was there a danger the band could become bigger than the project?

"The sole purpose of the band was to tell people about the archive, and get people to visit it, to me that was the only reason for doing it."

With the amount of material available, why stop now?

"It would be very easy for us to pull a second album together but we decided not to. "We wanted an example of what other people can do, it's over to you now."

The Full English play the Town Hall, Birmingham May 7. To visit the EFDSS archive go to www.vwml.org/browse/browse-collections-full-english.

Underage drinking led to trio's folk breakthrough

Award-winning singers The Young'uns are about to tour with a new album, DANNY FARRAGHER talks to one of the trio

From left, Sean Cooney, Michael Hughes and David Eagle

THEY have won best group in the 2015 Radio 2 Folk Awards, and are embarking on a tour on the back of their new album Another Man's Ground, so everything seems to be coming together for Teesside trio The Young'uns.

However, the start for Sean Cooney, David Eagle and Michael Hughes in Stockton about a decade ago was a little more haphazard as by Eagle's own admission they really stumbled on folk music because of a certain pub.

"Michael and Sean have known each other from primary school and I met them through a mutual friend when I was about 16.

"Then we just happened on our local folk club in a pub in Stockton which was one of the few places that would serve us beer even though we were underage.

"Fortuitously there was also a folk club there, but we had no idea what a folk club was at the time and we just became captivated.

"We were completely taken aback by people singing harmonies and in Teesside accents, singing Teesside stories, we had never heard anything like it."

The trio's first performances were influenced by another local singing group.

"First we started singing a lot of traditional songs based around a lot of what we had heard from The Wilson Family," admits Eagle, "The five brothers from Teesside who sing a lot of unaccompanied harmonies.

"Then as time went on we started singing songs about Teesside and from Graeme Miles and Ron Angel who was the founder of the club we went to in Stockton, then this led us to write our own songs.

"Sean started writing songs about Hartlepool and history, then as time's gone on we started writing about more modern day things so we sing songs about today's issues as well now. We've progressed quite a bit I suppose."

Progression

Part of that progression was the decision to make the leap from simply enjoying doing what they did to making it pay, which itself was almost killed before it got off the ground.

"I was all over the place," says Eagle in his definite Teesside accent, "I did voice over work and audio production. I then did a job for a charity teaching computers to blind people. Michael was an RE teacher.

"Sean did a lot of educational projects and he was the resident storyteller in a Manchester school. Then we all decided it was untenable to finish a day's work, zoom down the motorway to do a gig or a festival all weekend and then get back on Monday around 2am before going back to work again.

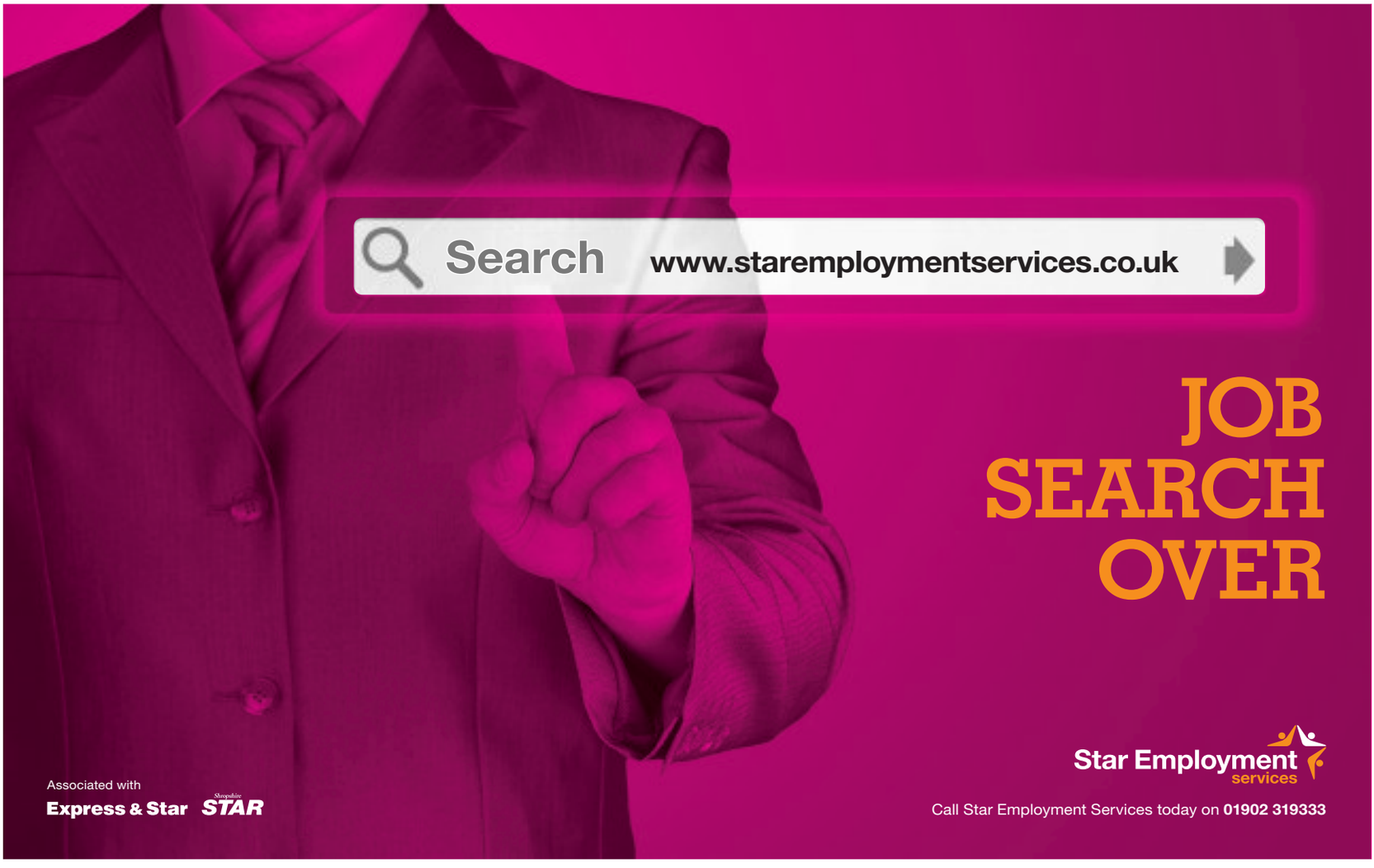
"It was more of an easy decision for me because I was already down to three days to accommodate freelance work.

"Michael's was probably the hardest decision. He was on a much bigger wage and in a proper, respected job.

"He did nearly put the scuppers on it because we had just decided to do it and he said I have just seen this placement at a grammar school and the salary is much better, but it would mean if I was going to do that then essentially I would have to knock the folk singing on the head entirely.

"Fortunately Mike came to his senses, remained with the dark side and stayed true to folk music," laughs Eagle.

The Young'uns play The Red Lion Folk Club, King's Heath, Birmingham on May 13. Doors open at 7.15pm, the show starting 7.45pm. Tickets are £11.



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A DECEPTIVELY spacious modern detached, The Woods, Rectory Gardens, Hartlebury has generous living space, set in a delightful enclave close to the centre of the village.

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A WONDERFUL detached property on a recently built development, 49 Kirkpatrick Drive, Wordsley is well placed for amenities and has spacious accommodation.

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The property also benefits from gas central heating, double glazing, off road parking, garage and landscaped rear garden and really must be viewed to be appreciated.

For further information contact The Property Shop on 01384 444645 or visit www.thepropertyshop.co.uk

Specialist tuition at circuit

By James Parker

Get Going Live!, the test-driving event for young and novice drivers with disabilities, is back for 2015 and now incorporated into the well-known Mobility Roadshow at Donington Park, Derbyshire, June 25-27.

Get Going Live! is a free event focused on the needs of people age 15 and over that are keen to discover how to get behind the wheel of an accessible or adapted car.

All young visitors are welcome to attend the show with their families to discover the latest advice, specialist driving tuition and vehicles available for individuals with a variety of conditions.

Whether drivers use wheelchairs or not, attending Get Going Live! offers the unique opportunity to test drive vehicles around the historic and exciting Donington Park motorsport circuit for free.

This track is the location for the British Motorcycle Grand Prix and British Touring Car Championship and so promises an amazing experience.

Specialist professionals in dual-control vehicles will accompany every young driver, so they remain safe during test drives.

Leading motor manufacturers such as Ford, Vauxhall and Hyundai will have a range of specialist vehicles on display, both in the exhibition hall and on the test track.

Did you know if you have a disability, you can gain a driving licence a year earlier at the age of 16?

Visiting Get Going Live! will provide all the information required to achieve driving independence and visitors will even be able to try out the theory test.

This year Aaron Morgan, the only disabled racing driver to compete in the Production BMW Championships, will be at Get Going Live! as a show ambassador.

Amazing

Aaron said: "Get Going Live! promises to deliver an amazing and unique day out for all young visitors and their families.

"As I race at Donington Park, being able to test drive accessible cars around the motorsport circuit for free is an amazing experience not to be missed.

"Get Going Live! is a 'must attend' opportunity for young people who are looking for their first adapted car. I can highly recommend it as you can talk to experts and find out from other people about how they learnt to drive.

"I will be at the show and really look forward to helping other young people with disabilities get in the driving seat."

Show ambassador Callum Hodgson will also be available to answer questions about driving with a disability as he first discovered adapted hand controls at a previous show.

Also, as Get Going Live! is part of this year's Mobility Roadshow, visitors will be able to see the many independent living products and services from other exhibitors in the Donington Exhibition Hall.

There will be a vast range of products on display including wheelchairs, car boot hoists, ramps and in-vehicle safety systems.

Get Going Live! is co-hosted by the charities Mobility Choice and DMUK, supported by NFE group. To pre-register for a test drive or for further information on Get Going Live!, visit: www.mobilityroadshow.co.uk

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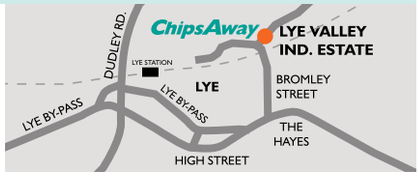

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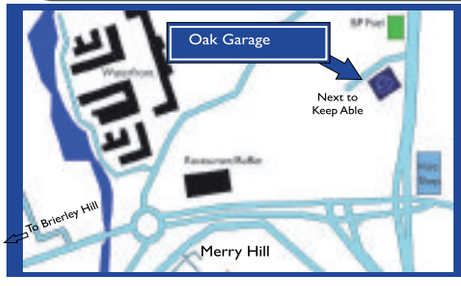

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Golden trip celebrates 50 years of iconic Ford

By James Parker

Ford's golden convoy of Transits celebrating 50 years of the van icon has started a tour around dealerships, events and other shows until the commercial vehicle leader's actual anniversary on the weekend of Aug 8/9.

The tour by gold-coloured Transit Courier, Connect, Custom and two-tonne Transit models marks five decades of loyal service to businesses in UK and around the world.

Since the first vehicle left the production line in Langley, England, on August 9, 1965, almost eight million Transit and Transit Custom models have been built, and the Transit has grown from a single model to an entire family of Transit vans.

Lined up end-to-end, 50 years of Transits would circle the globe, and on average a new Transit has been bought every 180 seconds during its lifetime.

The latest expanded Transit line-up features four all-new models – Transit, Transit Custom, Transit Connect and Transit Courier – which are boosting demand for Ford commercial vehicles, with sales at an all-time high in March up 43 per cent at 16,497, compared with March 2014.

Essential

"The Ford Transit has touched the lives of most of us," said Mark Ovenden, chairman and managing director, Ford of Britain.

"From house moves to moving people, the Ford Transit is an essential tool to get the job done.

"It has become a mobile office or workshop for some – and loved by us all."

Launched in the same year that the first person walked in space, the Transit made an immediate impact, providing practical support to the booming economy. The Transit evolved with a vast range of bodystyles and variants: from the parcel van, through tipper trucks and campers, to outrageous one-offs, including the Cosworth V8-powered Supervans.

Growing popularity saw production of the Transit accelerate, and after passing the first million milestone in 1976, it rapidly passed the next ones in 1985, 1994, 2000, 2005, 2010 and 2013.

Add demand for the smaller Transit Connect – with more than one million sold – and the compact all-new Transit Courier, and total Transit production is scheduled to top nine million during 2015.

Improve

Transit has also introduced a list of technology innovations to help improve performance, comfort and safety; from features like side-loading doors, radial ply tyres and halogen headlights, to direct injection diesel engines, high security locks and standard anti-lock brakes.

The latest Transit models have added state-of-the-art technologies like Adaptive Cruise Control and Lane Keeping Aid.

The success of the Transit has seen production expand beyond Europe, including facilities in Nanchang, China and in 2014 the Transit entered North America for the first time, with the all-new two-tonne Transit being built in Kansas City, Mo.

This has helped extend the all-new Transit to 118 markets across six continents.

"Ford's Transit family continues to lead the way in innovation," Ovenden said.

"With 50 years of van sales leadership in the UK under its belt, the new four-van Transit range is looking forward to its next half century."

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1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.
Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

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5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

business directory

accountants

ACCOUNTANCY and Taxation services for Small Businesses. Fixed fees. Call 01902 343200

7 Jobs

drivers

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8 Motoring

cars over £1500

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FORD FIESTA ZETEC CLIMATE 1.2 2008, 25k, FDSH, MoT Sept, tinted rear windows, excellent condition £3,350 ono. 07548 511612.

FORD FOCUS LX, 2005, 62,800 miles, grey, 5 door, 12 months MoT, £2,600 ono. 01384 412118.

MAZDA 6 SAKATA
2005. 49,000 miles. Sparkling silver. FSH. Full MoT. Air-con. One owner from new. CD player.
£2,400 ono.
Telephone 07973 667965.

MERCEDES B CLASS 150 SE
Petrol, 2006, 59,000 miles, silver, new MoT, 1 lady owner from new. Full service history. Good condition. First to see will buy.
£4,500 ono.
07775 847252.

MITSUBISHI L200 4LIFE DOUBLE CAB
53 plate, 2.5, fsh, black/silver, 10 months MoT, 38,000 miles, powerchip fitted, stainless double wrap around back bumper with step, stainless bull bar, roll bar and towbar, back liner, spot lights, tinted windows, excellent condition, Thatcham approved cat 1 alarm, refurbed including wheels, 1 owner from new.
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Real bargain at £2,900 o.n.o.
01902 608073.

IMMACULATE

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PEUGEOT 207 VERVE
2010, 9,528 miles, metallic grey, electric windows, electric mirrors, air con, long MoT. One owner from new, genuine reason for sale.
£4,500 ono.
07722 510732.

RENAULT MEGANE 1.6 VVT, 08, silver, 5Dr hatchback, 12 months MoT, EW, 71k, £2,495, o.n.o. 01384 826119 or 07948 961078.

TOYOTA YARIS 1.3 T3, 5dr, 52,000 miles, silver, FSH, 04 plate, MoT, 2 owners only, £1,975 ono. 07810 786578.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4, blue, 90,000 miles, MoT, new shape, excellent condition, bargain £1,895. 07939 483221.

VAUXHALL CORSA
2008, (58 plate), 31,000 miles, silver, full MoT.
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07773 207550.

VOLVO C30 R Design Sport, 2009, 54k, diesel, superb condition, fsh, 12 months MoT and service, bargain £6,750. 07768 174722.

VOLVO S40 diesel, 69,000 miles, FSH, 55 reg, MoT Oct, AC, metallic blue, excellent condition, £3,995 ono. Kingswinford 07775 752851.

cars under £1500

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that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

FORD MONDEO 2 litre diesel, 55 reg. Drives perfect, £725. 07885 772238.

JAGUAR S TYPE, SE auto, silver, X reg., excellent condition, full leather interior, sat nav, multi CD player, extras, £1,150 ono. 07411 958454.

PEUGEOT 206 1.4. (05), silver, 5dr, long MoT, 90,000 miles, A/C, PAS, CD player, £1,250 will accept offers 07971 381000.

PEUGEOT 206 2.0 Turbo Diesel Sport, 2004, 5 door, black, 100,000 miles, MoT, excellent condition. £695. 07851 213316.

PEUGEOT 306 ESTATE, 1999, silver, 1.9 Diesel, 65,000 miles. MoT Oct 2015. £650 ono. 01384 256413.

RENAULT CLIO 03, 1.5DCi, 60mpg, silver, 2-dr, £30 tax, tidy inside/out, alloys, stereo, MoT, 123k. £1200. Wombourne 07713 480661.

RENAULT CLIO CAMPUS 2007, 66k miles, silver, good condition, abs, tinted rear windows, MoT, Stereo, CD £1,195 ono 0121 5572706.

RENAULT MEGANE, 2005, 68,000 miles, silver, MoT to March 2016. £995. 01384 287029.

ROVER 75 Diesel, automatic, 2002, full MoT, silver, low mileage, very good condition, first to see will buy, £1050 ono. 07714 992907.

SAAB 9000CD Griffin 3.0 V6, good condition. MoT Feb 16, all electric, £600 ono. 07547 263879 or 01902 307750.

VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.6 53, runs but engine fault, many new parts, £425 o.n.o. For details 07738 388049.

VAUXHALL VECTRA LS, 1.8 5Dr, hatch, blue, 03 Reg., petrol, 90k, fsh, MoT, CD radio, very good condition, £600. 01384 351704.

VAUXHALL VECTRA Y reg, 2001, 1.8, petrol, grey, FSH, 77,600 miles, CD, 2 months MoT, £595. 07828 425486 / 0121 522 4939.

VW GOLF convertible, silver, AC, EW, alloys, used daily, MoT July, £475 ono. 07801 541760.

VW POLO, 03, silver, 3 door, 80k, MoT, full service history, CD player. Great condition, cheap to run, £1,375 ono. 07535 074156.

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9 Local Information

public & legal notices

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or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk
(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

TERENCE WALTER SIMKIN (Deceased)
Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925 any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the aforementioned deceased, late of Lyndon Prospect Hill Stourbridge West Midlands DY8 1PN, who died on 08/02/2015, are required to send particulars thereof in writing to the undersigned Solicitors on or before 01/07/2015, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to claims and interests of which they have had notice.
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personal

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general

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6 Property

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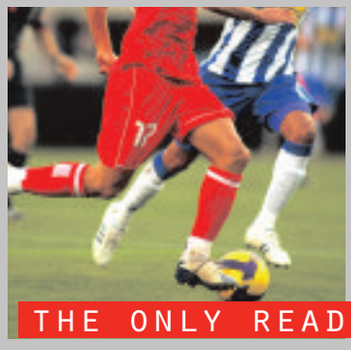

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LISA, 31yr old petite bundle of fun looking for fun, easygoing, genuine guy. Age/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417223**

SOPHIA young 40yrs, married but bored, seeks discreet adult fun, any area, all calls answered. **Tel No: 0906 500 1912 Box 413399**

LINDA, 47, brown-eyed blonde, caring, loving and honest, many interests, seeks genuine male to share lonely evenings with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417211**

ADVENTUROUS sexy lady, 38yrs, married but seeks no strings fun with discreet man, any age. I'm tall, slim and dominant. Aca. **Tel No: 0906 500 1913 Box 415301**

FEMALE seeking gent 55-70, down to earth, nice and intelligent who knows how to treat a lady. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417195**

ANNE, mid 40's, cheerful busty curvy affectionate real woman! Seeks gent, any age or looks for nights at mine. **Tel No: 0906 500 1914 Box 410291**

KATHERINE, romantic, slim, feminine, loves to live life to the full, seeks adventurous outgoing male to appreciate and share life with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417091**

DISCREET lady, 42yrs wants to make you happy, come to me and let me do that for you. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 1915 Box 409901**

SHERRIE 32, blonde, great company, loves going out, looking to share life with that special someone. Status/Looks/age unimportant.**Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417067**

TARA, confident lady, long legs, long hair, seeks a saucy man of any age for daytime, no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 4693 Box 414701**

KAREN 50, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, GSOH, loving, caring, understanding, seeking similar male, 55-55. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416989**

KAREN 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416337**

THELMA, 43, attractive blonde, seeks loving, honest, funny male to pamper and make happy.**Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416979**

PRETTY slim female, 48, N/S, no ties, seeks tall, slim level headed male for initial friendship and evenings out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416727**

THELMA, 43, attractive blonde, seeks loving, honest, funny male to pamper and make happy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416979**

DAWN attractive, easygoing, and dazzling, WLTM well built mature male for fun loving no strings romance. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416917**

MID naughty forties female looking fun, thrills and discreet meets, give me a call, you wont be disappointed. Any age with own accommodation. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 409109**

KAREN medium build, blonde hair, 5ft 5ins, seeks male, 50-58, GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415429**

KAREN 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416337**

MARIA gorgeous leggy blonde seeks tall professional male for fun nights out, cosy nights in with plenty of TLC and romance. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416861**

SUSAN 44, stunning curvy blonde, fit and active seeks happy go lucky male for good conversation, fun times, maybe more. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416801**

FEMALE fun brunette, attractive, 26, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416287**

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STELLA 50, gorgeous, voluptuous and all woman seeks sensual older male, who knows just what he wants for lots of naughty fun and TLC. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707**

STELLA 50, gorgeous, voluptuous and all woman seeks sensual older male, who knows just what he wants for lots of naughty fun and TLC. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416707**

PAULA 40, sensual, young at heart brunette looking for some fun and romance with a tall outgoing male. Call if you feel the same. ACA **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416681**

VAL 41, pretty, cuddly, flirty, seeks similar fun loving male for an uncomplicated no strings relationship. Age/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416601**

EILEEN 49, lovely brunette, adventurous and eager to please seeks intelligent male to share the fun side of life together. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416521**

CHRISTINE 48, shy sensitive brunette looking for lively older male to make her smile again and bring back some passion. s **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416519**

BEAUTIFUL full figured, down to earth black woman, 37, looking for some serious fun with an experienced, confident, older guy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416499**

SINCERE lady, seeks similar gent, widower preferred, 60-67, 5ft 6ins, so slightly taller than me, N/S, car owner and likes a dog. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416471**

KAREN 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416337**

JUNE 50, beautiful, funny, warm, young looking blonde WLTM attractive down to earth male for no strings fun, laughter and love. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416299**

SHELLY 36, tiny shy brunette seeks down to earth, sensitive, older male to snuggle up, share a bottle of wine with and pamper. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416235**

ATTRACTIVE tall, dark, professional gent, GSOH, likes sports, socialising, good company, seeking female with GSOH for laughs, conversation and maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415969**

ATTRACTIVE professional widow, 73, WLTM sincere caring gent, widower for friendship, meals in, conversation and to put a smile on our faces. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415951**

KAREN 50, widow, 5ft 5ins, blonde hair, blue eyes, slim, seeks gent with GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415871**

GWEN middle aged, 65-75, 5ft 2ins, likes theatre, country music, holidays, seeks N/S male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415785**

ASIA very attractive slim single black 32yr female looking for fun times with god time guy with GSOH and a real passion for life and falling in love. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415837**

SARAH 31yrs looking for casual 1-2-1 no strings fun with broadminded bored male. Status unimportant, discretion and mutual respect essential. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415821**

LINDA uncomplicated female who loves the simple things in life, looking for N/S male with GSOH for nights in/out, no games, users or time wasters please. s **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415535**

PATRICIA widow 67, likes simple pleasures in life, seeks gent, N/S for friendship/companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415685**

ANITA seeking nice man in the West Midlands, 50-70 for companionship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413765**

GEM 34yr old pretty brunette with lovely big eyes and nice skin, many interests, WLTM kind tallish male, 30-50yrs for serious relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415571**

KATHERINE 33, pretty blonde would love to get intimate with outgoing, fit guy who is also looking for fun relationship with no strings. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416197**

PAT 5ft 2ins, medium build, attractive, blonde hair, widow, seeking N/S, sincere gent for friendship and days out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416057**

ALICE 36, tall and slim with long brown hair, outgoing and sporty seeks funny, intelligent guy to share active days and cosy nights. Age/looks not important. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416087**

DIANE 37, sensual, tactile and loving seeks tall male for interesting conversations and cosy intimate nights together. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416085**

BRIDGET 48, voluptuous, seductive and very saucy, seeks male for lots of TLC and to make very happy in return. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416083**

CATH 37yr old very bored housewife seeking bored male for some fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414497**

SYLVIA attractive blonde size 12 45yr old female looking for genuine companionship, someone to spend quality times with, enjoy music and cosy times together. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415543**

HOME alone far too often, attractive bubby fun good time girl 32yrs seeking male 30-50yrs for broadminded daytime fun. Let's rid the boredom! **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415523**

SUE attractive, independent, confident female, sporty, petite, loves the Arts, good books, looking for romantic, sensitive nice guy for nice times together. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415501**

AMANDA 5ft 4ins slim fit attractive, enjoys the outdoors, nice wine, theatre etc. seeking romantic considerate soul mate to broaden my horizons. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415391**

SUSAN 64, lively, seeking male for friendship, maybe more. **0906 500 3955 Box No: 411329**

KAREN 50, widow, likes swimming, horse riding, keep fir, clay pigeon shooting, GSOH, N/S, non drinker, seeks male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415211**

KATY 26 slim beautiful discreet blue eyed blonde looking for mature gent for some uncomplicated fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414209**

SAM attractive single mum who really enjoys life and likes to be happy WLTM genuine single male/dad for mutual companionship, dates in/out and tlc. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415381**

KAREN medium build, blonde hair, 5ft 5ins, seeks male, 50-58, GSOH, loving, caring and understanding. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415429**

23YR old Asian female, seeks sugar daddy, any age for fun and much more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415367**

YOUNG looking female, likes rock music, concerts, theatre, seeks Rock male with similar interests for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415249**

MANDY very attractive, slim single mum 36yrs, employed, OHAC, looking to share some quality times with similar genuine kind hearted social male/dad. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415409**

DIANE attractive singleton seeks male to have some fun with, meals out, cinema, dancing and just see were things lead from there. Age/race unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415373**

SHELIA Asian 20yr old female, very pretty, feminine with long hair, enjoys nights in or out, seeking mature white male 55plus for discreet fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415181**

MARGARET 39, attractive active female likes animals, reading, meals in/out, seeking considerate partner for good laughs, companionship, shared interests and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414727**

BUBBLY larger than life 28yr old blonde bombshell, seeks large built male to fulfil my every fantasy! Give me a call; I will totally make your day maybe even your year. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414977**

BARBARA 38 slim sporty attractive blonde, varied interests, single and ready to date, seeks kind honest guy for shared interests, fun nights out, hopefully leading to more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414967**

JULIE single petite attractive big blue eyed brunette, loves cooking a cosy meal in, nights out, searching for real love with genuinely nice guy. Looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414491**

GOOD looking professional lady, 56, enjoys the arts, country walks, meals out, seeks compatible, genuine, professional gent to enjoy the good things in life. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415007**

ANGIE 38yrs slim blonde, ex model with lovely long legs with shapely figure, fit, toned, sporty, confident but warm, WLTM similar perceptive, sensitive individual for ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414723**

BECKY stunning big blue eyed 38yr old honest, caring and fun person looking for nice times with similar outgoing fun guy, status/age unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414391**

68YR old widow, attractive, seeks sincere, N/S male, likes reading, meals out and walks. West Midlands. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414773**

NICOLA 32, blue eyes, petite, pretty brunette, shy at first, trustworthy, caring, varied hobbies, seeks male/single dad up to 40yrs for tlc possible ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414707**

KAREN petite 34yr old attractive blonde, likes pubs, clubs, meals out, gym, looking for honest caring guy who can make me laugh. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414373**

ANN looking for no strings adult fun, broadminded and great fun, blonde, attractive and discreet. Call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414363**

JANE 5ft5ins blue eyed attractive curvy mature student with happy disposition, enjoys meals or drinks in/out, keeping fit, walking, seeking genuine fun male with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414229**

ARE you Mr Wonderful? Lesley attractive slim auburn haired fit lady who loves life and fully intends to live it to the full, seeking similar caring, patient man. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414213**

ANNABELLE 29 slim tanned beautiful sophisticated sensual brunette, loves the high life, Champaign lunches, weekends away, seeks very own sugar daddy for sweet nothings. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414191**

SARAH 38yr old bored blonde seeking single guys up for some good times, chats and discreet meets. Looking forward to hearing from you. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414177**

EMS 32yrs petite young looking, pretty, likes swimming, walking, talking etc, seeking honest bloke or dad up to 40yrs for fun adult friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413853**

NATALIE 22yrs attractive brunette nurse, very slim, athletic figure, many likes, few dislikes, WLTM male up to 38yrs to stay at home and have some fun with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413839**

MAZ 36 petite curvy big blue eyes, loves music, beach walks, cosy nights with good conversation and nice wine, seeks similar likeminded male. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413571**

HELEN feisty redhead with many interests including beach walks and quiet nights in, looking for male with GSOH and a passion for travel. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413869**

ANN slim attractive widowed but not past being loved lady, loves travel, country good conversation, WLTM kind genuine male, 35-65 for ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413453**

JANET tall beautiful brunette, slim 12, separated, enjoys life, no hang-ups, wanting quality time, friendship and possible romance with similar guy. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413415**

SONYA slim attractive vibrant lady with GSOH, social nature, fit/active, WLTM N/S male up to 60yrs for romantic genuine respectful relationship, loving. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413441**

EMMA petite slim blue eyed blonde 22yrs, likes cinema, dancing/music, just chillin, seeking easygoing male for fun and good times but nothing serious. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413207**

EUROPEAN beauty romantic, caring, attentive, looking for loving male to enjoy warm loving relationship with, call me to find out more. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413013**

KAREN 34 blue/green eyed size 12 attractive brunette who loves pubs, cosy nights in, kids, seeking special honest guy/dad for poss ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413005**

ROSA 27 sexy senorita seeking older handsome prince charming to whisk me off my feet, enjoy fun times, improve my English and fall in love with. Age/race unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412927**

RITA attractive blonde with a very kind heart seeks special man to share my life with. Please get in touch if like me you are fed up with always being the single friend. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412987**

JAN 5ft8ins slim pretty lady in great shape, open-minded, laidback, GSOH, OHAC, many interests, WLTM someone for cuddling up with and to share good and bad times. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412931**

ANN slim attractive N/S lady who is easy to get along with, looking for romantic interesting man for new adventures together, hopefully ltr. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412911**

JULIE loving, caring, honest, seeks real gent to share conversation and have a great time, friendship/relationship, who knows? **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412777**

SALLY stunning lady looking for dinner dates, partying and generally having a good time with generous man looking for his mojo! No strings, go on call me. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412599**

DEBS petite attractive auburn haired, good listener, romantic, enjoys socialising, cosy nights in with Mr Right, seeking similar caring N/S single dad. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412387**

Men seeking women

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SIMON white male, looking for relationship with fun to be with, voluptuous, big black female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 376863**

DARREN 42, likes pubs, clubs, drives, meals out, motocross, seeks female, 28-35. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 389127**

ROBERT 6ft 4ins, blue eyes, brown hair, likes football, nights out, socialising, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417053**

56YR old widow seeking female, 50-60 for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417201**

55YR old male, 5ft 6ins, dark hair, loyal, likes keep fit, seeks special female to light my fire. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 393333**

SLIM attractive man 51, GSOH, WLTM lady 45-55 for evenings out and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 406259**

PAUL 63, seeks attractive younger lady for discreet daytime fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417121**

DAVE genuine guy, 6ft, black hair, blue eyes, medium build, likes sports, gardening, music, seeks female with GSOH and genuine. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388372**

MALE 67, smoker, solvent, OHAC, seeking feminine, voluptuous woman, 60-65 for days out, weekends away, holidays and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 417043**

RICHARD 44, single, happy go lucky, likes pubs, clubs, socialising, seeking female for fun and friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416995**

WIDOWER 70's, lonely, educated, well travelled, reliable, tactile, seeks fun, N/S lady for friendship and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416481**

VICTOR, retired, 5ft 8ins, professional, seeks N/S lady for fun, friendship and happy times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 309157**

NICK 52, 6ft, slim, genuine, seeking slim female for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415881**

SINGLE dad, young 39, likes keep fit, walks, seeks slim lady, any age for fun, hopeful relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395747**

39YR old single dad, likes cosy nights in, seeks female for fun times, maybe more. Single mum welcome. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 395807**

MARK 5ft 11ins, blond hair, blue eyes, slim-medium build, athletic, likes nights in/out, socialising, meals out, pubs, seeks female with similar interests and GSOH for fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411335**

SLIM attractive man, tired of lonely nights, seeks genuine lady for friendship and evenings out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410261**

DAVE genuine guy, 6ft, black hair, blue eyes, medium build, likes sports, gardening, music, seeks female with GSOH and genuine. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 388372**

MALE 63, N/S, GSOH, genuine, caring, likes music, travel, meals out, casual drink, seeks female, 50-70 for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416997**

39YR old single dad, likes cosy nights in, seeks single, slim lady for fun relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396061**

MIKE 47, 6ft, easygoing, kind, considerate, seeks female, 25-45 for friendship and outdoor activities. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 396367**

GENT 53, 5ft 11ins, brown eyes, distinguished, seeking attractive lady, 30-45 for discreet fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415809**

BLUE eyed male, black hair, 6ft 4ins, likes football, nights out, farming, seeking female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416341**

ALAN 49, seeks lady for discreet no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413757**

MALE 49, 6ft, seeks lady for discreet fun times. Must accom. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413819**

MARCUS 46, 5ft 7ins, medium build, blond hair, seeking female for fun and friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416887**

TALL, dark, attractive guy, 49, seeks attractive, younger female for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 316752**

MALE 57, seeking female, any age/looks for no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416779**

WIDOWER 70's, lonely, educated, well travelled, reliable, tactile, seeks fun, N/S lady for friendship and more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416481**

VICTOR, retired, 5ft 8ins, professional, seeks N/S lady for fun, friendship and happy times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 309157**

MALE 63, N/S, honest, GSOH, car owner, seeks female, 55-70 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416817**

CARING male, 55, N/S, medium build, likes meals out, music, cinema, sports, driving, seeks female, 40-60 for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 239148**

MALE 60, N/S, average looks, black hair, likes meals out, seeks female, 50-70, looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 383425**

TALL, dark, slim, attractive guy, 48, seeks attractive female for no strings fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 299904**

ATTRACTIVE male, late 40's, seeks attractive female for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 311713**

TALL, dark, attractive guy 50, seeks attractive, tactile female for fun, excitement and lots of attention. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 314219**

SHROPSHIRE male, 50, tall, dark, attractive, fun loving, seeks attractive female for fun and excitement. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 341387**

TALL attractive Shrewsbury male, 54, seeks attractive female for fun and excitement in the daytime. Discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411823**

MALE young 62, medium build, likes sports, golf, holidays, food, beer, seeks lady for nights out. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416643**

MALE 50, seeking discreet no strings fun with female. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416783**

KEV 49, dark hair, blue eyes, average build, seeks female, any age for fun times, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 384372**

Men seeking men

BI male, 50, tall, friendly, discreet, seeks bi male, 35-50 for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416335**

MATURE gent 73, bi-curious, occasional CD, seeks similar male, 70-80. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 416155**

GRAHAM 54, dark hair, 50's, seeks gay/bi male for relationship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 415727**

MATURE male, young looking, many interests, GSOH, seeks similar male for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 413953**

DIVORCED male, young, fit 50, generous, own business, seeks male, any nationality, 18-20 for good times. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 412727**

Women seeking Women

SARAH shy, likes animals, football, cycling, walks, gardening, looking for female for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 411411**

Friends

LUKE 60's, seeking young Asian friend, 20-30's to socialise with. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 414841**

MODERN young at heart lonely lady, 70's, likes trips out, holidays, seeking similar lady for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 500 3955 Box No: 410215**

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DK's Foster is first back for club in marathon

IT was a big weekend for athletes from Dudley Kingswinford Running Club as many headed to the capital for the London Marathon.

The blue hoops joined close to 38,000 runners from international class athletes to those just happy to finish on Blackheath Common before making their long and winding way towards a finish on The Mall .

First back for the hoops was Ben Foster in a new personal best of 2.34.09 in 395th place, Kevin Duckworth finished in 2.52.14 to claim 35th in his age group, James Wright bagged a PB in 2.57.29 and Mark Judge claimed a Good For Age qualifying time in 3.14.52.

Helen Tromans finished in a new PB of 3.16.11 finishing 35th in her age group and in the process setting a club record for the fastest female member over the distance. Lorna Hulme went off fast but struggled in the later stages but still claimed a respectable 3.25.11, Andy Litchfield PB'd in 3.34.17, Dave Hickman ran 3.49.28, Marie Latreche clocked 3.52.13, Carol Fisher finished in 3.55.41, Lee Avery 4.35.30, Natalie Litchfield 4.52.40, Debbie Richards 4.54.24 and Alison and Keith Whitehouse finished together in 5.58.58.

In Stratford upon Avon a couple of hoops completed the Shakespeare Marathon. Helen Hickman finishing in 4.08.13 in 338th place and Phil Sayers ran 4.28.01 to claim 442nd. Over the half distance John Sixsmith clocked 1.44.13 finishing in 338th position. And John Andrews finished in 51st place in 22.22 in the Fordhouses 5k.

Snooker 'is s-cued' towards men

WOMEN are not given the same opportunities in snooker as men, and that needs to change according 10-time world champion Reanne Evans.

The 29-year-old from Dudley revealed that despite her decade as the leading name in the woman's game, she has lost money on her career.

She said: "I think there are different mindsets that don't help ladies. But from the start we haven't been given the same opportunities. We just need backing, to get more involved.

"Every day you battle the boys club.

"Whoever you talk to, it's the men's tour, not the main tour. You just have to want to push through.

"I think we need a lot more sponsorship and bigger tournaments. I was ladies' champion for 10 years and I'm out of pocket, and I don't think that would be the case in other sports."

She lost the world champion title for the first time since 2005 when she was beaten in the semi-finals by eventual winner Ng On Yee.

On Yee had travelled from Hong Kong and won £1,500 for being crowned champion.

The new world champion said she would like to join the men's game as well, adding: "There's not many ladies players who can play snooker, so I can hope I can play with men to improve my skills. I want to get closer to the men, like Reanne." Evans said the pressure of her match against 1997 world champion Ken Doherty to qualify for the main draw of the World Championships had thrown her off her game, adding: "I felt a bit flat.

"You get the vibe maybe things are not going quite your way, with all the hype playing Ken in the Worlds, I was on a little downer, but I can't take anything away from her, she played brilliantly."

Evans also announced she had signed up for Q School, the qualifying stages of the World Snooker Tour.

She'll compete against both male and female amateurs from around the world for a two-year tour card, allowing her to play for £8 million in prize money over that period.

Halesowen looking for bounce back match

HALESOWEN head into this weekend's home game with Penkridge looking to bounce back from a losing start to the season.

The first team face Penkridge at Seth Somers Park on Saturday and will be licking their wounds after the defeat at the hands of Tamworth.

And to complete a miserable weekend for the club, the seconds were also defeated.

Skipper Faisal Shahid said: "There are lessons to be learnt from both these defeats. It was good to welcome the new boys into the team on Saturday but we made some basic errors."

The early season format of 50 over result matches saw Tamworth firsts win the toss at home and elect to bat first.

Lively opening spells from both skipper Faisal Shahid and Eddie Rhodes saw the ball go past the outside edge countless times but with little reward for the bowlers despite keeping the run rate down in the early stages.

It was the change bowlers that took some punishment from the Tamworth batters who went on to amass a big 272-6 from their 50 overs with solid contributions from Flower 80, Burrows 73 and Maddox 52.

Needing to score at 5.5 an over the Halesowen innings got off to a solid, if unspectacular, start with Hassan Qaumi and Faisal Shahid putting on 50 for the opening wicket.

However, the run rate was never challenged and by the time new signings Harry Ellison and Will Barrett got to the crease the asking rate was close to double figures. Halesowen were out for 198.

Wolves must win for play-offs chance

KENNY Jackett believes Wolves would be 'very unlucky' not to make the play-offs now after taking their top-six charge to the final day.

The 1-0 victory at Wigan means Wolves need to beat Millwall at Molineux on Saturday, better Brentford's result at home to Wigan and hope Derby lose at home to Reading to sneak into the play-offs.

No team has needed more than 76 to get into the second tier top six in a 46-game season, meaning if Wolves win they could make history as the highest points total to fail to make the play-offs on 78.

Wolves' tally of 75 points has only been bettered by the last team in the play-off positions five times in the 26 years of the current format.

And Jackett believes they will be unfortunate to miss out now.

"If we win and 78 points doesn't get us into the top six, we'll be very unlucky," said the head coach.

"But we have to make sure we do our job because we have still an opportunity and that has to be our focus in front of our own fans.

"All we can do is look after ourselves and if there's any possibility we have to make sure we're there to take it.

Exciting

"We did our job on Saturday and have to do it again this Saturday.

"It's exciting to still be in it with a good points total but we need to put on another good performance against Millwall."

Derby have won just two in 12 but 19th-placed Reading have gone seven without a victory.

Brentford, whose 2-0 win at the Madejski Stadium ended a five-match wait for three points, have a goal difference of four better than Wolves.

Millwall need to win to have any chance of staying up and Jackett admits it's ironic their last-day opponents are his former club, who he fought so hard for in the Championship.

"I didn't know their situation because I'd been looking at the permutations at the top," he said.

"It's my former club and they'll have everything to play for.

"Rotherham have a game at home to Reading so it will be clear what they need to do."

Driver Sykes is off to a flying start

Rally driver Richard Sykes in the Somerset race. *Picture courtesy of Dave Johnson*

STOURBRIDGE rally driver Richard Sykes got his BTRDA Mixed Surface Championship campaign off to a flying start when he finished second in class on the Somerset Stages in his Citroën DS3.

The rally started with two runs on the tarmac of the Porlock Hill toll road near Minehead. Sykes and co-driver Emma Morrison were immediately on the pace, finishing the stages just three seconds behind Callum Black in another DS3.

After the tarmac opening the rally moved onto gravel forest tracks for the remainder of the competition.

Sykes was consistently quick and maintained his second in class position throughout the day. He also finished 18th overall out of 166 starters and third two-wheel drive car. "It's great to get a good result in the DS3. It's a new car for this season and it has been a massive learning curve trying to get to grips with it," said Sykes. "Porlock was the first time I have driven the car on tarmac so I was delighted with our times there.

"The forest stages went well too, we weren't far behind Callum even though he has a lot more experience of the DS3."

Lye Town go down to free kick by Evitts

Tipton 1 Lye Town 0

KALUM Evitts drilled home a free-kick three minutes from time to give Tipton Town a 1-0 win over Lye Town.

Tipton could do nothing to prevent their relegation on Saturday, but gave the home fans something to cheer as they bid farewell to the Midland League Premier Division season.

Keeper Jack Hayfield and the Tipton defence withstood plenty of pressure, and their bravery was rewarded when Evitts' came up with the late winner at least giving a his side a chance to out with a victory.

Bilston 2 Dudley Sports 2

Bilston's Ade Beckford flicked a header over the keeper. Matt Perry levelled on 17 minutes, then Luke Williams put the visitors in front.Chris Brown brought the

Heathens are all ready to defend title

CRADLEY HEATHENS will begin their defence of the National League Cup next month after agreeing dates with Stoke Potters.

Will Pottinger's side – the holders – will go to Loomer Road, which was the Heathens' adopted home in 1996, on Saturday May 16 for the first leg of the quarter-final tie.

And the return date has been agreed for Wednesday May 27 at Perry Barr.

The Cradley versus Birmingham National League derby encounter, which is expected to be one of the meetings of the season, has now been put back to Wednesday, June 24, to make way.

Cradley chief Nigel Pearson said: "Our thanks to Stoke and Birmingham for working with us on this and it's nice to be able to agree fixtures so quickly and efficiently."

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The fascinating city of Reyjavík with its brightly painted wooden buildings stand out in sharp contrast to the stunning beauty of its setting of water, ice and lava fields. With a host of restaurants, bars, cafes and shops selling goods that are no longer eye-wateringly expensive, justifies its claim to be amongst Europe's most 'happening' cities.

Get acquainted with the surroundings on a guided tour. Amongst the highlights will be the extraordinary 'Pearl', a collection of disused water tanks now crowned with a glass dome and a viewing platform offering stunning views of the city and harbour.

See the Presidential Residence in its idyllic shoreside setting at Bessastaoir, and the brightly coloured fishing town of Hafnarfjord, as well as the Lutheran Cathedral, the Houses of Parliament and the towering Hallgrim's Church.

Join the optional Golden Circle tour to explore Thingvellir, a great lava arena deep in the Continental Rift valley. Take in the active geothermal area site where the 'original' Geysir is now all but extinct, but where its neighbour Strokkur spouts impressively. The day ends with a visit to the stunning Gullfoss waterfall and the Frioheimar greenhouse cultivation centre where produce is grown with the aid of georthermal heat.

For many, the highlight of the trip will be a journey out of the city in search of sighting the fabled Aurora Borealis, the Northern Lights, if lucky enough to view them, they are a neverto- be-forgotten sight.

The five-day break alternative ends with an optional excursion to the world-famous 'Blue Lagoon' outdoor spa, whose mineralladen waters are recognised for their health-giving properties.

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Sport

Wolves' play-offs hopes in balance
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Sykes is off to a flying start
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Glassboys' misery runs right to end

Skelmersdale 2 Stourbridge 1

CHRIS Lait's first half goal was not enough for Stourbridge as their wretched run of form continued to the final day of the season with a 2-1 defeat at Skelmersdale.

Lait struck after only six minutes after a Luke Benbow flick-on put him through on goal.

But Portuguese full-back Valter Fernandes equalied in the first half, and Danny Mitchley gave the home side the advantage in the Evo-Stik Premier clash.

The Glassboys could consider themselves perhaps a little unfortunate to round off their season with a fifth defeat in six games at Stormy Corner.

Despite the boost of an early goal, Stourbridge were made to pay for not taking first half chances to double their lead as the home side fought back to level just before the break and then netted what proved to be the winner just short of the hour mark.

Manager Gary Hackett was forced into a change with Chris Knight unavailable, and Leon Miles stepped in at centre back in an otherwise unchanged line-up from Tuesday's narrow defeat at FC United of Manchester.

Stourbridge forged ahead with just six minutes played.

A long clearance by Lewis Solly was flicked on by Luke Benbow and Chris Lait stretched out a leg to toe it past the advancing Andy Paxton and into the net.

Skelmersdale had the ball in the net themselves two minutes later but it was called offside. Stourbridge's lead was almost doubled on the half hour as Leon Broadhurst's downward header from a Drw Canavan corner bounced up and against the crossbarThe Glassboys finish the season in 16th place.

Not the best of starts for Stour in new campaign

Penkridge 1st XI 164-2 Stourbridge 1st XI 99-2 (Penkridge win)

STOURBRIDGE 1st XI made an inauspicious start to the 2015 campaign losing to Penkridge in a rain hit match.

The Division Two clash in Birmingham and District league had to be decided by the Duckworth Lewis calculations which meant Stour was left to score 164 off 20 overs.

Stourbridge 1st XI put into to bat by Paul Szewczy revelled in taking two quick wickets. Matt Bradley now at the helm replacing his brother Richard had the breakthrough bowling A Watson for four. With team score still on 11 Jitesh Jivan-Patel removed B. Holmes in the same mannerfor six.

Rana Hassan and Atta Chisti took liking to Stour bowling bludgeoning boundaries at will. Intercepted by short rain breaks the Penkridge score reached 169-2 with Hassan plundering 89no on off 79 balls and Chisti 59 off 74 balls. Penkridge captured eight wickets and Stour strode to 99 off 18 overs, Smith finished with 4-15 off four overs.

Stourbridge 2nd XI 180 Kings Heath 2nd XI 180-4 (Kings Heath win)

Boss not happy over weakened side

Speedway

CRADLEY boss Will Pottinger has slammed the fact that he has to take a depleted side to Buxton for Sunday's National League meeting.

Heathens will be without both Nathan Greaves and Ellis Perks due to a clash with Premier League fixtures which take priority – Greaves is racing for Workington and Perks for Scunthorpe.

Pottinger says the fixture should never have been allocated for the same day – and when it was not enough effort was made to change it in the best interests of the sport.

He said: "We'll be forced to go to Buxton without Ellis Perks and Nathan Greaves and I'm not happy about it. This is a far from ideal situation and one that could have easily been avoided with only a handful of National League riders riding in the Elite or Premier League this year.

"Surely it's in everyone's interests for both teams to be at full strength so that it's a fair contest and the best team wins?"

Squad member Tyler Govier comes in at reserve for Perks and the rider replacement facility will operate for Greaves with the remaining Heathens team members eligible to take his four programmed rides. The next home action at Perry Barr for the Heathens is against bitter rivals Mildenhall on Wednesday May 13.

Pottinger is also unhappy that the National League Fours at Coventry has been put on the same day as Edinburgh are racing which means Heathens will be without skipper Max Clegg for the defence of their title.

Said Pottinger: "The meetings with Mildenhall are always something special and I'm sure this will be no different. We are desperate to go through the season unbeaten at Perry Barr."

STOURBRIDGE LET LEAD SLIP

Stourbridge 28 Harrogate 29

STOUR claimed a first half lead but found Harrogate's well organised defences grow increasingly difficult to break down.

The visitors clawed back the lead to move ahead in the last quarter.

A Stef Shillingford consolation try at the death wasn't enough to prevent Stour ruing another game where they failed to defend a lead.

So they finish a disappointing 10th in National 2 North where they will kick-off their 2015-16 campaign in September.

Both sides probed their opponents well-organised defences during the early exchanges, play largely confined to the middle of the park.

The visitors conceded a penalty for holding on in the tackle, Gary Dipple declining the kick at goal in favour of a short-range lineout.

Sione Tu'ipolotu drove up the middle, pulling in defenders and creating enough of a gap for Nigel Mukarati to blast through and score near the posts.

Clearance

Harrogate hit straight back, running back a deep infield clearance kick, outside-half Callum Irvine breezing through some poor tackling to put centre James Morland in at the corner. Back came Stour, securing their lineout throw near halfway to set up a set of short drives before fullback Tom Jarvis created a linebreak sprinting on to an offload from flanker Eji Uzoigwe.

His pass found winger Nathan Bressington with enough space to round the cover. Harrogate secured loose ball at the restart but spilt it in possession, Uzoigwe hoofing it deep and Stef Shillingford's chase pinning the visitors in their 22.

They tried to run it out but a spilt pass was seized by 2nd row Ben Hughes who fed replacement scrum-half Toby Handley.

He was tackled just short of the line but quick ball was worked to Dipple who put Mukarati in for his second try.

A penalty allowed Stour to kick again for the corner but the opportunity was blown with a knock-on at the lineout.

An early second half penalty gifted Irvine a kick at goal but he pushed it wide. Harrogate countered from the dropout, Irvine taking advantage of further shoddy tackling to skip through the defence to link with fullback Lewis Minkin who scored in the corner.

Stour tightened up the defences to hold out the next set of attacks, but were finding the visitors hardworking defence difficult to break down.

Their lead was further eroded when a defender drifted offside for Irvine to land a penalty kick.

Harrogate couldn't advance their maul from a catch and drive but a flat pass found winger Luke Edwards enough space to score in the corner and take the lead. Stour attacked again but still couldn't breach the defences and a turnover found them back in their 22. The ball was ripped in the tackle, Irvine chipped over the defensive line and winger Sam Bottomley gathered to score.

Both sides upped the tempo, Harrogate started to ship penalties and Stour ran a succession of quick taps as the clock ran down, grinding their way ever closer to the visitors' line but finding no way through.

Harrogate secured a turnover and kicked clear, but in the final twist Stour worked lineout ball to midfield where Tu'ipolotu's run drew the defence out of shape, his offload putting Shillingford clear to score.

Stourbridge's Ben Hughes in a maul as his side take on Harrogate who ran out winners

Yeltz close the season with a draw

Halesowen Town 1 Grantham Town 1

AARON Forde's last-gasp equaliser concluded Halesowen's successful first season in the Northern Premier League and secured 11th place in the final table.

Grantham snatched a ninth minute lead when centre-forward Liam Read held up a long ball for Liam Hurst to stroke home from 15 yards and the Gingerbreads held onto their lead for the majority of a game of few chances on a rock-hard playing surface.

As the Yeltz tried to settle, Kris Green screwed wide before Read lofted the ball onto the top of Halesowen's net. Iyseden Christie flashed a shot wide of Grantham's goal before the interval and a Christie header was cleared off the line at the start of the second half.

Grantham striker Read then threatened on three further occasions as Grantham continued to create the better chances. Read remained onside to scoop over the bar after 70 minutes and then flicked a Ben Saunders cross just high four minutes later.

Home goalkeeper Matt Sargeant then did well to claim the ball at Read's feet after 79 minutes.

Halesowen made three late substitutions in an attempt to change their fortunes and Danny Bragoli went close with seven minutes remaining.

The Yeltz finally conjured an equaliser two minutes into added time when an Aaron Griffiths throw-in from the left was headed on by substitute Aaron Lloyd for Forde to steer his shot the ball just inside the post.

Halesowen Town: Sargeant, Green, Griffiths, Forde, Hull(c), Tilt, Charlton, E. Turner (Meese 82), Christie (Lloyd 78), Haseley (Granville 78), Bragoli.

Unused Subs: Heard, Pearson.

Saddlers will get £150,000 boost

WALSALL are set for a £150,000 cash boost after former striker Troy Deeney helped Watford to the Premier League.

Deeney left the Banks's for Vicarage Road for around £500,000 in August 2010 but the deal included a clause which would see the Saddlers receive the six-figure sum should the striker fire the Hornets to promotion.

Watford ended their eight-year exile from the top flight on Saturday when they won 2-0 at Brighton to win automatic promotion, with Deeney on target.

Deeney put them on their way to victory and four points clear of third-placed Middlesbrough with one game left.Such a cash injection would be gratefully received at the Banks's.

★★★

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